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It is customary within the library profession to contrast the "large" and "small" libraries as presenting distinct problems of library administration. The line drawn marks an actual difference in the problems of interior management, for in the one case there is an administrative executive with a large and specialized staff, and in the other case there is the single librarian doing all sorts of work or dividing the general work with one or more non-specialized assistants. But in the exterior relations of a library, the dealings with the public, the vital distinction is rather between urban and rural libraries than between large and small libraries. The urban library is called upon to deal with men both in masses and classes, for instance, to supply books on a special industry, or on trade union organizations, or on factory legislation, in the factory community of the manufacturing city or town or suburb. The rural library in a country place which boasts a few carpenters, a painter or two, and a score, at most, of other mechanics, needs on its shelves books on such topics only to the extent that they interest the general reader rather than the specialized worker. It is well, to be sure, to have even in a small rural library the best working book on each of the general practical subjects, as included in the representative list of the A. L. A. Catalog. From the same point of view it should also have books on the special subjects which the bright boys and girls of the community need as they look forward to college study or to practical life in the workaday world. Above all, it should keep in touch with the schools and have on its shelves the best books that supplement and extend their courses of study. But aside from such specialization as this, if it may be called such, the rural library must be a general library, a library for the general reader, a development of the private library, rather than that aggregate of professional and technical libraries, so to speak, combined with a general collection, which should constitute the scope of the urban library.

THIS means that above all the rural library should be a selection rather than a collection

of books. Mr. Charles Francis Adams has often and most usefully emphasized the view that a rural library should confine itself within the limit of 10,000 volumes—a view illustrated and confirmed in the A. L. A. Catalog of approximately 8000 books. The A. L. A. Booklist suggests usefully the new volumes required to keep such a collection up to date. The Carnegie gifts for new buildings are often utilized to provide stacks for 20,000 or more volumes, when open shelves about the rooms for 10,000 volumes would be really more serviceable to the community. Where a Carnegie or other gift provides for a new library the A. L. A. Catalog furnishes the best of all purchase lists. But existing rural libraries, as they reach the limit of their shelf room, must face the more difficult problem of weeding out. The faculty of weeding out is in fact the ultimate virtue of the "small librarian," who must be large-minded indeed to weed successfully. A library expert might perhaps find a new calling as a professional weeder-out.

AN important question to rural libraries is how to reach outlying parts of the town with library service. The electric trolley, to be sure, is partly solving the problem, bringing many users to the library; but this is not enough. A "library post," that is, a rate which would make it practicable to send books locally by mail, would of course be a great help. It is impracticable to expect that Congress will extend the one-cent-a-pound rate, to which the postal authorities are totally opposed, for any purpose, and endeavor in this direction is worse than wasted. If, however, a four-cent-a-pound rate for books and other printed matter could be obtained, and a half rate of two cents a pound established for books sent from any post-office center along a rural free delivery route from that center, this problem would in great measure be solved. The travelling library is so far the best solution of the problem. Branch libraries and reading-rooms should, however, be established wherever a village center can provide room and volunteer attendance. In Stockbridge, Mass., two methods have been em-

ployed, both with partial success. In one village in the township the branch library is in the country store and post-office, where the postmaster or a helper is willing to give out and receive books during certain hours; in another village, the experiment has progressed one step further, and the town has provided a good room in the second story of an engine house, where is a collection of a couple of hundred books and a dozen of the more popular periodicals, kept open Wednesday and Saturday afternoons and evenings by help of volunteers. It is not always easy to obtain volunteers, and the system makes library hours unfortunately irregular. But these several plans are all in the direction of finally effective result.

In classification, "standard" and "up-to-date" methods must always be to some extent in conflict, and it is difficult to secure the best compromise, as Mr. Bishop points out clearly in his review of the new Brown classification scheme. One of the most extraordinary triumphs in library development has been the decimal classification which Mr. Dewey worked out a generation ago, in his early days at Amherst College. Since that time the advance in knowledge, particularly in science, has developed great changes in nomenclature; but it is remarkable how well the decimal classification has on the whole stood the test of the time and change. The decimal plan permitted, as no other scheme could, sub-division and incidental rearrangement to the utmost degree compatible with a standard method. Mr. Cutter devised his expansive classification to meet modern scientific nomenclature and specialization, but his modification of the symbols at successive stages of expansion has proved a serious embarrassment to libraries which adopted his scheme in its less complete stages. The combination of letters and figures, in this as in the Brown system, has also serious disadvantages. On the whole we are disposed to think that the decimal classification is the one which will endure, and from the revision which has been so long in progress, it is to be hoped that the modifications there embodied will bring the scheme up to date without sacrificing its standard character. Perhaps this is a reconciling of impossibilities, but libraries must be

content with a compromise which cannot have all the advantages of either system. The great benefit was effected when relative location replaced fixed location on the shelves, a reform which was closely associated with the introduction of the decimal classification, which since its adoption by the Institut International de Bibliographie has become of world-wide vogue.

To state, so to speak, library examinations and confine library work to applicants passed by the state, would seem at least of doubtful expediency. The field is now fairly well supplied with trained workers through the courses and examinations of the library schools and the apprentice classes of the larger libraries, and to limit recruiting from outside by requiring state examination might raise a serious difficulty for many libraries. The analogy with the relations of the teacher is here not quite in parallel, for the schools have a graded system for which qualifications may be reasonably defined. The libraries are in large part volunteer institutions, and in the lesser ranks draw naturally from the body of the community, yet the discussion raised by Miss Baldwin's paper is not without interest.

We print elsewhere a communication from Mr. Wellman on copyright from the point of view of those who dissent from the position of the A. L. A. conferees and of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, including a quotation from the elaborate criticism by Mr. Charles Porterfield—of the Edward Thompson Company, publishers of law books—which the Library Copyright League has reprinted as a pamphlet. Mr. Porterfield emphasized his views at the recent Congressional hearing, where Messrs. Steiner, Wellman and Cutter presented the views of the protestants, while Mr. Bostwick supported the action of the A. L. A. delegates. The contention that libraries could not lend or dispose of books if the new bill became a law is a misapprehension. The existing law gives to the copyright proprietor the "sole liberty of vending," and any restriction of sale is a matter of the law of contract and not of copyright; and the Congressional Committee gave prompt and proper assurance that if any possible danger in this respect lurked in the phraseology of the bill the language would be made clear.

FORM OF LIBRARY ORGANIZATION FOR A SMALL TOWN MAKING A
LIBRARY BEGINNING*BY ALICE S. TYLER, *Secretary Iowa Library Commission*

THE awakening of one or two individuals to the possibilities for good afforded by a public collection of books marks the beginning of the library movement in that town. These men or women may have formerly lived in a town having a flourishing library, and recalling the pleasure and benefit derived from it begin to wonder why such privileges may not be provided in the new home. Or some one who has grown up in the community hears of the work being done by the library in a neighboring town and asks why Pleasantown cannot do the same; or, as frequently happens, a woman's club has been organized in the town, a representative goes to the meeting of the State Federation, hears of the interest other club women have had in the founding of a local library, and, feeling the need of books for club study and knowing the dearth of good literature for her boys and girls who are growing up, joins with others in the effort to provide a collection of books for general use. Whatever may be the cause of the interest which marks the beginning, the little seed has been sown and begins to grow.

In considering the topic assigned me, "What form of library organization is most desirable for the small town," it is, of course, necessary first of all to agree upon the meaning of the words "small town." In Iowa a community having a population of two thousand inhabitants or less is termed a town, and for *small* town I will assume that we agree upon interpreting it to mean a population of one thousand or less. With this group of people, having the ordinary advantages of school and church, what is the best method by which both young and old may be provided with the books that may inspire and cheer, inform and uplift both individual and community life? It does not seem necessary in this company to discuss the important function this library should fulfill in the life of the people; the

mission of the book has been set forth so ably and so frequently in all library meetings that it would be indeed "carrying coals to Newcastle" to attempt it here. It is, however, well for us to remember that, while there is a surfeit of cheap literature that seems to have reached the smallest hamlets and villages, the need is as great as it ever was for the best books to be made accessible to those who do not yet know the "books of all time."

This group of people in the small town desiring to provide a public collection of books will probably follow the "line of least resistance" in making the beginning. Considering the prejudices, church affiliations, rivalries, etc., that exist in almost every town, what is likely to be the basis of the movement for a library? It will probably take one of the following forms:

1. Enlargement of the meager school library.
2. A church reading room.
3. Woman's club or town federation library.
4. Library association or subscription library.
5. Free public library, supported by taxation.
6. Travelling library center or station.

There may be and probably will be combinations of two or more of these into one plan, and if there is a state or county system of travelling libraries there would be, in any of the plans suggested, the probability of the use of the travelling libraries.

Considering the forms in the order mentioned: First, the enlargement of the meager school library—this has been occasionally resorted to because the few books serve as a nucleus, they in some instances having been found to be of little service in the school-room, while for the general public they might be of value. Poorly selected, ill adapted to the uses for which they were intended, with no one especially concerned as to their care and use, locked up and of no use to any one

*Read before the League of Library Commissions, Narragansett Pier, July 2, 1906.

during the three months' vacation, they are indeed serving a good purpose if some of these dusty, neglected books in the school collections are made the nucleus of a public collection for the entire town. This, however, is rarely done.

The second plan—a church reading room—is one which is usually suggested by some enthusiastic pastor who is genuinely concerned regarding the young people of his church and town, and is generous enough to open a room in his church for this purpose. My observation has been that this is an unwise and undesirable method, as it is likely to be immediately combatted either secretly or openly by denominational opposition or jealousy on the part of other churches, and will not be likely to attract into the circle of its influence those who may not be identified with orthodox churches, or the unformed boys and young men who might be reluctant to use freely a library thus located.

The third—a movement on the part of a woman's club or a federation of all the clubs in the town to found a library—is a method that has been tried in several towns in our state. The organizations being already in existence, active, and committed to altruistic and civic work, find in the public library a cause that appeals to its members strongly and to which they are willing to give enthusiastic labor. After close and sympathetic observation of this method of making a library beginning, I believe that it is not the best plan, because of the fact that it confines the movement to a limited group of workers. Sometimes, too, it encounters a spirit of jealousy and criticism on the part of those outside the club that is not conducive to the forwarding of a large public movement such as a library should be—to include all ranks and conditions, regardless of age, sex, or social standing.

The fourth plan—a library association or subscription library—is a popular method of making a beginning when properly understood. The few who see the need of a library and plan to accomplish its organization, believing that it should be for *all* the people, call a meeting for the express purpose of discussing ways and means of providing a public library for the town. Notices of this meeting are sent to all churches, schools, clubs, lodges, etc., where people congregate, and are printed

in the local newspaper so that all are given the opportunity of having a part in it. At this meeting, after addresses and discussion, it is voted that a library association shall be formed for establishing and maintaining a public library. Committees are appointed to recommend a basis of organization and on providing a book fund, and the movement takes form in a few weeks or months with a fund for the purchase of books and a specified annual membership fee which shall provide (probably very meagerly) for running expenses. With many variations, with discouragements and struggles, it is nevertheless an oft-tried and satisfactory method of making a beginning, the association affording an organization through which to work toward a tax-supported library.

But in each of the four plans mentioned by which a beginning may be made there is always and persistently and depressingly the question, "How are libraries begun in this manner to have sufficient funds even to barely exist, much more to grow?"

And this is the fundamental matter after all—money. Whence shall the funds come? The church plan, the club plan, the school plan, the association plan—all are dependent on the spasmodic and irregular support that results from the labors of a soliciting committee using persuasive arguments with business men and others. There are certain expenses that are absolutely essential—books first and most, a room for which, probably, rent must be paid (though some generous citizen may give the use of it), periodicals to be subscribed for, heat, light, table, chairs, etc., besides the most important feature of the whole scheme—the librarian.

Shall the use of the books be free? or, in this period of beginning, shall each person pay an annual fee or a rental for the use of the books? If an attempt is made to make the library absolutely free, on the basis of any one of the four plans suggested, there must be back of the movement a very active and probably much worried finance committee struggling with entertainments, suppers, lecture courses, subscription lists, etc., to provide the "ways and means."

The fifth form of organization is the tax-supported free public library. Is it desirable that the small town shall in its beginning in library matters attempt at once to secure a

municipal tax to found and maintain a free public library under the state law? There are those who believe this is the *only* way to make a beginning. I am confident that I voice the sentiment of commission workers when I say that we are all agreed that eventually, if not in the beginning, the free public library on a rate or tax-supported basis is our endeavor. The point whereon there may be a difference of opinion is whether the movement might first be started as an association and by means of this association public sentiment created which shall provide for the municipal support. There is no doubt but that the amount from the tax levy provided by law for the maintenance of the library in most states would be so small in a town of one thousand inhabitants or less, that it would be necessary for a movement to be inaugurated to provide a book fund by some other means—in other words, the plant must be installed, and this requires money. Afterward the running expenses may be met by the tax levy. It is certainly true that the life of a library is precarious and uncertain until an annual revenue is assured by a municipal tax, but it would seem to be simply a question of policy as to whether this shall be the *first* step or not. In studying this question at first hand it has been observed that the first impulse seems naturally to be to solicit subscriptions for a book fund, and this seems a necessity whether there is a maintenance tax or not. A library association standing back of this solicitation for a book fund and back of the entire movement seems very desirable and, though temporary, has usually proven to be successful.

Now, what, we may ask, is the relation of the state library commission to this community? What has it to do with this small town desiring to make a library beginning? First, its advisory relations with the community should be such that it will aid that town in avoiding the mistakes made elsewhere in the form of organization and in methods of work. Surely the observations and experience of commission workers, who are provided by the state, should be at the service of every community in the state if desired. One of the points, however, that is always perplexing to the earnest commission worker is, how to help effectively. The cry of paternalism is not heard so much as formerly, but it is

certainly a fine point as to how far the state shall go in aiding the local movement, and surely there must first be a desire on the part of the community.

But if it is the desire of but *one*, that is sufficient to bring the commission worker to the aid of that *one* in arousing interest. I would suggest that the effect of the commission worker's co-operation with the local movement is much greater if she comes on the invitation of the local leaders, and there is always a way to secure such an invitation. This puts the commission worker on a basis where she can serve much more effectively.

It may save the club and the library movement from much tribulation if we can tell them of the disaster that came to one town because of the zeal of the woman's club to have the honor of founding the library, or of another town where a certain secret organization aroused the opposition of all other societies in town by starting a library and collecting over one thousand volumes for public use, or of another town where a "generous citizen" gave a large sum for a new church building on condition that it should have a library room included for the use of the town (which the members of other churches in town seldom enter). On the other hand, they may be told of the enthusiastic organization of a library association, the raising of a book fund of \$2000, and the favorable sentiment immediately created for a municipal tax which resulted in a free public library upon that basis within one year. Such information and the details gained from experience as to just how the work may best be accomplished constitute a part of the preliminary work the commission may do.

Second, to aid in the selection of books. Certainly this function of the library commission does not need to be emphasized here. The utter helplessness with which a new library board or book committee undertakes the task of providing books for the new library makes it absolutely imperative that selected lists should be available that can be placed in their hands. The "Suggestive list of books" published by the League of Library Commissions is especially suited for this sort of work, also reliable lists of children's books, such as Miss Moore's "List of books for a children's library," published by the Iowa Library Commission; the Cleveland list, compiled by

Misses Power and Prentice; Miss Hewins' "List of books for boys and girls," and others. The *A. L. A. Booklist* is also supplying this definite need of the small library for a reliable list of the best recent books, and this is furnished free (monthly) by most library commissions.

Third, to install a simple loan system and such other records as are absolutely essential to the orderly conduct of the library. This includes classification and shelf list, but not necessarily a card catalog.

Fourth, to provide the travelling library that shall augment the very meager collection of books belonging to the local collection.

This method of "state aid" is especially suited to the wants of the small town in making a beginning, but it also has the entire state for its field of activity, sending books to the remotest corners—the country neighborhood, the rural schools, the clubs, also loaning books on special subjects of study to the larger libraries. This fresh supply of books coming from this state center at intervals throughout the year may enable the local library to use some of the funds for a reading room as a feature of the work as well as the lending of books. In fact, I am inclined to say that if a suitable person is available for the position of librarian, the reading room can be made a more powerful influence for good in the small town than the lending of books for home reading. The absolute lack of provision for wholesome diversion and entertainment for young people in the small town, the inclination of the boys to loaf and lounge about the post-office, the rail-

way station, the tobacco store, etc., because there is nowhere else to go; these conditions make it extremely important that a movement to establish a library in a small town should include the reading-room, where the open doors, bright lights, attractive periodicals and interesting books invite and attract those who would not otherwise come under the influence of the printed page.

But the problem of the reading-room in the small town is one of maintaining order, without repelling, of cheer, welcome, helpfulness; so that the librarian's personal qualities are put to the test in such a position out of all proportion to the apparent interests involved. Over and over again do we see unselfish, cultured, devoted women, fired with the altruistic spirit, giving themselves to such service "without money and without price," and so we have the volunteer librarian—without salary—as one of the most important factors in many of the small towns making a beginning, and but for whom probably there would be no beginning.

Certainly all the interests mentioned in the opening of this paper—the schools, the churches, the clubs—should be concerned in providing the public collection of books for the town, but these should rise above the particular organization or interest which chiefly concerns each. Obliterating all lines of separation they may unite in service for the public good, working unitedly either for the library association or the municipal library as the first step. Without the support of these interests the work would be well-nigh impossible.

STATE EXAMINATIONS AND STATE CERTIFICATES FOR LIBRARIANS*

BY CLARA F. BALDWIN, *Secretary Minnesota Public Library Commission*

It is a familiar statement that the public library should be recognized as a part of our educational system, and that librarianship should be regarded as a profession on at least as high a plane as that of teaching. It then becomes the problem of the commission worker to uphold the highest possible standard of service in every part of the profession, coming

in contact as he does with libraries of all sizes, and of various functions.

The librarian is the most important factor in the development of any library, and it is apparent that he or she should be selected because of his or her fitness for the work, not because of social or political influence, or even because "she needs it, poor soul." Other professions have rigid requirements for entrance to their ranks, and it would

*Read before the League of Library Commissions, Narragansett Pier, July 3, 1906.

appear that our standards for admission should be equally high if we are to be worthy of our calling. Our public school systems have been brought to a high grade of efficiency through generous state aid and encouragement, and it is generally conceded that the state has acted wisely in assuming authority over public education. Why may not the state exercise supervision over libraries in a similar way? If no one may teach in our public schools without a license, why should the guidance of our public libraries, the handmaids of the public schools, be left in many cases to those who have been obliged to give up teaching because they could not obtain a certificate?

Granted that there is every reason why the state should examine candidates for library positions and issue certificates for those fitted for such positions, let us consider, first, what the practical working of the plan would be, and second whether, if practicable, it would accomplish the desired results. At the very beginning, we are confronted with a question that will prove a stumbling block and a "rock of offense" in many states, for on the face of it a system of state examinations and state certificates for librarians implies the condition of giving state aid to libraries. It is not the province of this paper to discuss this larger question. Direct aid is now given to libraries in nine different states, all of them except Michigan eastern states. So far this aid has only been given for the purchase of approved books, and on condition of the expenditure of an equal or proportionate amount by the library. A system that would enable the state to require certain standards from public libraries would involve very large appropriations, not only for distribution to the libraries, but for the administration of the system. In the older states, where communities are more uniform and stable, excellent results might be obtained by means of this plan, but in the West it would be difficult to adapt such a system to the widely varying conditions which exist.

Supposing, however, that a state has determined upon this plan, the next questions to be considered are the nature of the examination and the kind of certificate to be issued. The object of such an examination is to weed out the incompetent and to obtain the best possible material for librarians. It should

show not so much what the candidate knows as what he can do. Examinations for candidates for positions in large libraries having a civil service system usually include history, literature, general knowledge, and sometimes add practical library experience. It is obvious, however, that the same preparation could not be expected of an applicant for a position in a small library paying \$300 a year or less, and what could the state demand of a librarian receiving no compensation whatever? Public libraries would have to be graded, probably according to number of volumes, and the certificates graded also. The first grade certificate might entitle one to hold the position of librarian in a library of more than 10,000 volumes, and so on down to the lowest form of certificate, which might enable one to have charge of a library of less than 1000 volumes. Many problems present themselves in any logical development of such a scheme, and there would be danger of injustice in many instances.

If the librarian of a library of 10,000 volumes is required to possess a certain amount of knowledge, it does not necessarily follow that the librarian of the smaller library could fill her position satisfactorily with a smaller store of history, literature and general knowledge. On the contrary, the librarian who has limited resources in her library must often supplement them from her own mind. And what examination can measure the patience, tact, and courtesy, so essential in the ideal library, large or small, those qualifications of heart and soul which often make up for many deficiencies in other directions? On the other hand, it is frequently the case that one who can pass the best examinations is absolutely unfitted for library work.

The civil service systems employed in some of the larger libraries are often most unsatisfactory in results. The following notice recently appeared in a western newspaper: "Public notice is hereby given that a competitive examination under the rules of the Civil Service Commission, of applicants for the following positions: assistant librarian in the public library, pipemen, truckmen, drivers, stokers, and promotions to lieutenant in the fire department, police for the police department and clerks, will be held in the council chamber, City Hall, Tuesday morning, etc." There is no doubt that plenty of good pipe-

men, truckmen and stokers were obtained, but alas for the assistant librarian! After three examinations no one has yet been found capable of passing the examination for this position of responsibility at \$45 per month. The conclusion is obvious that until the scale of salaries is raised there will be little inducement for well equipped people to take examinations for library positions.

Just what then would be accomplished by issuing state certificates for librarians? It would eliminate to a certain extent the securing of positions through personal influence, and would be a protection to library trustees against the petitions of many applicants; it would also possibly tend to an increase in the scale of salaries paid, as the requirements were raised. On the other hand, state aid is impracticable in many states; it would be extremely difficult to establish a satisfactory

method of grading our libraries; examinations are not always a satisfactory test of fitness; and it is doubtful whether desirable candidates could be induced to take the examinations.

The library schools are solving the problem for the larger positions, and the commissions are using their influence to place trained librarians wherever it is possible. Trustees are coming more and more to realize that it is economy in administration to employ trained people. In the same way the summer schools are solving the problem of the small library. The standard is constantly being raised through the educational work of the commissions, and the desired results will be accomplished by arousing strong public sentiment in favor of good service at an earlier day than they could be by forcing arbitrary standards upon libraries before they are ready for them.

"WHAT'S THE USE" OF A PUBLIC LIBRARY? *

BY ANNA G. ROCKWELL, *Librarian New Britain (Ct.) Institute*

"WHAT'S the use?" is a question that reveals to us the power of words. How it takes the wind out of the sails of enthusiasm, pricks the bubble of pretense, and cauterizes the proud flesh of extravagance! It may be the germ of revolution. When a people asks: "What is the use of a government which does not secure decent comfort at home or respect abroad?" regiments of Cossacks cannot long maintain that government; nor will the library system find that its palatial buildings and splendid collections are of much value, if it loses public respect and confidence.

But where shall our inquiry begin? The use of existence is a question for philosophers and theologians; the use of civilization may be left to the sociologists; the use of education must be defended by statesmen and teachers. Although the value of each has been brilliantly controverted, the average man will be influenced more by a healthy instinct than by the subtleties of argument. If civilization is a disease and education a curse, we shall waste time defending the free public library; but for this occasion, at least, let us accept

the latter as the natural outgrowth of popular self-government and compulsory education; a flower which presupposes vital sap in root, stem and branch. Our question, although it may be destructive, is also tonic and puts the supporters of any institution wholesomely upon their mettle. Certainly, as librarians, we ought to be ready to give a reason for the faith that is in us and for the salaries we draw—or hope for.

Libraries, of course, must bear their share of loss in the "bankruptcy of science," if that convenient phrase may include the conviction that popular education has not entirely "made good." Faith in the all-sufficiency of knowledge, at least in the form of book learning, as a preparation for life, is not as robust as it was in the middle of the nineteenth century, when a popular writer affirms: "The more learning a people have, the more virtuous, powerful and happy will they become; and to ignorance alone must the contrary effects be imputed." After commenting upon the rapid increase in periodicals, societies, lecture courses and libraries, Dr. Dick prophesies that: "A new and happier era is about to dawn upon the world; when intellec-

*Read before the Connecticut Library Association.

tual light shall be diffused among all ranks; when Peace shall extend her empire over the world; when men of all nations shall be united by bonds of love, reason and intelligence." This delightful millennial vision is spoiled for us by various unpleasant facts, such as the union of the highest culture and the lowest vice in one individual, the increasing number of educated criminals, and those social spectres, the revolutionary anarchist with his bomb, and his counterpart, the monopolist who corrupts legislatures and judges, founds libraries, universities and art galleries from the same impartial pocket-book. We know that in books we have no panacea for the ills of society. Worse yet, we are forced to admit that our books, like everything else that we know about, may do harm as well as good. Yet admitting this, we may disregard the dyspeptic criticism of people who have lived too much upon books. They who are "surfeited of the dainties bred in a book" are fond of extolling an unlettered originality, which, when it exists, is barren of results.

The stock criticism of the individualist that the state has no right to tax one citizen to buy books for another is not very formidable just now. The state is ourselves and the economic advantages of the co-operative buying, housing, and caring for books is self-evident. The great majority still believe that they have a perfect right to tax themselves and an unwilling minority for many things more or less necessary than libraries, and we seem more likely to add to the number than to diminish it. If libraries have sailed in upon the swelling tide of the socialistic spirit, it is our part to moor them against the reactionary ebb.

Criticisms based upon the results of the public library's work touch us more nearly. There is one which we encounter continually: "What is the use of the public library when two-thirds of the books which it circulates are mere fiction?" But what is fiction? It is the form in which the literary spirit of our age has chiefly manifested itself. As well might an Elizabethan flout the drama. Like the drama, it is democratic, exuberant, sometimes coarse; for though it often catches the celestial music, it commonly keeps an ear to the ground. It is especially adapted to that great new public created by compulsory education and to an age whose energies are so largely engaged in a wonderful material

development. It is freighted not only with the universal love interest but with adventure and the life of other lands and social groups. Philosophy, religion, science, art and history are all tributary to it. It is not that facts are merely sugar coated, but the emotions are stirred and the interest roused to receive them, supplying in a measure the personal inspiration without which teaching loses so much. Fiction is the product of many of the best minds of the age; its part in the education of a people should not be ignored.

But admitting the value of the work of the great masters of fiction, are we circulating their books? Is not the library principally employed in giving out weak and ephemeral trash, hot from the press? Undoubtedly there is enough truth in the implication of this challenge to keep us chastened in spirit, yet in spite of their great private sale and the use of many as text-books, the classic novels attain a respectable circulation in most libraries. We should not wish to cultivate a Chinese reverence for the classics, or to foster an intellectual timidity which dares not enjoy a book until some one called a critic has pronounced it good.

We need not apologize for the sanatory use of books; the aged, the overworked, the convalescent, the neurasthenic, all call upon us for a story that shall amuse and cheer. An entire extinction of light novels might well be followed by a rise in the percentage of insanity. Mr. Jerome K. Jerome has recently censured what he terms the "narcotic use" of books; not a new use, for a seventeenth-century book lover finds, among other excellencies, that books are the "opiate of idle weariness." We must regret, with Mr. Jerome, the loss, if there is one, of respect for literature as an inspirer, yet in most lives—as in most libraries—there is room for both. Charles Darwin tells us that in his youth he delighted in poetry and drama; in later life he found relaxation in the books of the day, largely fiction, from the circulating library. Is not his change of taste a normal one, occurring in the lives of most persons as they advance in years? The Darwinian essentials of a good novel, "some one in it to love, preferably a pretty woman and a happy ending," would not satisfy some of our book committees. Had he been a patron of an American public library how hardly would he have escaped an attempt to elevate his

taste and awaken an interest in "solid books"!

Our supercilious attitude toward the literary taste of a portion of our library public has in it an element of snobbishness, and the intellectual snob is, of all snobs, the least admirable. A member of the New York bar, who has recently won the admiration and gratitude of the country, a scholar who enjoyed Greek at the age of eight and metaphysics at twelve, confesses: "I like a good blood-and-thunder, swash-buckling romance better than almost anything else you can give me printed in black and white. I don't care very much who wrote it, just as long as it has a rattling good story between its covers. And next to a good thriller of this sort I must say I lean pretty strongly to the old-fashioned detective story; for a weak brain and a tired back nothing like it in the world!" Substitute for the weariness due to the struggle for pre-eminence and the strife of tongues in the court room, the exhaustion due to the struggle for subsistence and the jangle of machinery in the factory, and an amiable weakness becomes a reason for abolishing the public library system!

Another serious charge is presented in a recent magazine article entitled "Have free libraries killed literature?" in which the present scarcity of works of genius and profound thought are evidence for the plaintiff. If we hold, with Lombroso, that genius is degeneracy, the library needs no defence; if we are old fashioned enough to call it "the high and peculiar gift of the creative spirit" we can only say: "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh and whither it goeth; so is every one that is born of the spirit." Profound thought, like profound political sagacity, does not seem to be subject to the law of supply and demand. If, as may be suspected, this charge is merely the plaint of one who feels that *he* could produce works of genius and profound thought if the market was only brisk, we may enjoy the unconscious humor.

Less startling in form, but the same in substance, is the accusation that public libraries are responsible for a general decline in public taste as evidenced by the success of the yellow journals and the intrusion of so many trivial books among the best sellers. But have these critics any right to compare the

few thousand "gentle readers" of old with the millions turned out by the public school at an age too early to have acquired much but the ability to read simple prose? Mr. John Cotton Dana, in a study of the American reading public in the *Outlook* says: "To-day most read a little, if only signs and posters; some read newspapers—probably ten to twenty millions of the forty millions who could read them if they would. A few read novels; if the most popular novel finds only a million buyers in a country where forty millions could read if they would, who can say that novel readers are more than a few? A very few, possibly two or three millions, read standard literature and serious contributions to thought and knowledge." The yellow journal which caters largely to the appetite for stories is a rival of the library, or perhaps its forerunner, but not its product.

A more serious question would be, "What is the use of so much gratulation over the public library when it reaches so few people?" Has not the idea of the library as a memorial or monument somewhat obscured the idea of the library as a living machine for combating ignorance, to be run at full pressure? A beautiful central building, the pride of the town, is worth while, perhaps; but plain, neat branches within easy walking distance of tired and busy people are better worth while if we cannot have both. The *Independent* last summer, in an editorial entitled "Libraries for men," questioned the value of the public library as ministering almost exclusively to women and children. We cannot deny that women and children are in the majority among library users, but the reasons for this seem not to lie, as intimated, in the management of the library. An observer as favorable to American institutions as Professor Münsterberg says, in "American traits": "American women are the real supporters of ideal endeavors. Theatre managers claim that 85 per cent. of their patrons are women. No one can doubt that the same percentage would hold for those who attend art exhibitions and even for those who read magazines and literary works in general. And we might as well continue with the same somewhat arbitrary figure; can we deny that there are about 85 per cent. of women among those who attend public lectures, or who go to concerts, among those who look after public charities and the work of the churches? I do not remember ever to have been in a

German art exhibition where at least half of those present were not men; but I do remember art exhibitions in Boston, New York and Chicago where, according to actual count, the men in the hall were less than 5 per cent. of those present." Again, in "The Americans": "It is indubitable that this undertaking of the burdens of intellectual culture by women has been necessary to the nation's progress—a kind of division of labor imperatively indicated by the tremendous economic and political duties which have preoccupied men. No European country has ever had to accomplish economically, technically and politically in so short a time that which the United States has accomplished in the last fifty years in perfecting its civilization." The enormous number of men's societies, lodges and unions are also opposed to the reading habit. New Britain, for instance, has more than one hundred such bodies, exclusively for men, listed in its last directory. There seems no reason why a wide-awake library should not place appropriate collections of books in the club rooms of such organizations as could make use of them. The complete technical and reference library which the *Independent* considers best suited to the masculine mind is impossible in every small town because of its great initial expense and the cost of keeping it up to date.

Yet we should not omit, especially we who belong to the "mannerless sex," diligent searchings of heart lest pettiness, uppishness, overconscientiousness, wrong emphasis, a graveyard atmosphere, a love of routine for its own sake, and a personal point of view in the selection of books, lessen the usefulness of our libraries. In many communities the free public library is of recent establishment and we may hope that the boys who now use it will preserve the habit in later life.

There are numerous questions that we may ask ourselves in regard to the internal workings of the library. In fact, a habit of asking each rule, custom, and pet scheme, sternly, "What is *your* use?" is worth acquiring, though the result might be fewer collections unrelated to the social life of the town, fewer bulletins, fewer and more elastic rules, simpler cataloging, a general elimination of fuss and frills, and, alas! less glory and much humility whenever we encountered an up-to-date librarian.

THE PROPOSED COPYRIGHT LAW — A PROTEST

EVERY librarian in the United States should read in the periodical *Law Notes*, for August and September, the articles by Mr. Charles Porterfield on the proposed copyright law. In the course of a temperate but searching examination of the bill he points out among many provisions seriously affecting the interests of the public one that is of supreme importance to the libraries.

"The new bill," he declares, "is very clear and precise in regard to the definition of copyright, and the nature of the protection which it is designed to secure, but at least one of its provisions is so vicious and unjust as to subject the entire bill to suspicious scrutiny. The provision referred to is clause (b) of section 1, which reads as follows: 'That the copyright secured by this act shall include the sole and exclusive right: . . . (b) To sell, distribute, exhibit or let for hire, or offer or keep for sale, distribution, exhibition, or hire, any copy of such work.' If this should become the law, the copyright proprietor would not be restricted to the mere right to make the copyrighted thing and put it on the market. He would be given in addition to that incorporeal right a special property in each and every copy or item of the subject of his copyright. The purchaser of a copyrighted book would not become the absolute owner of it. He would acquire by his purchase only the right to read it, and let it stand on the shelves of his library. He could not sell it, nor would it be an asset of his estate after his death. It would be a matter of doubt whether he would even have the right to dispose of it by his will. This clause would also make impossible the operation of any library, either general or professional, where persons pay for the right to read and use the books. The bookstores would have no right to sell copyrighted books, except by the permission of the publishers, and at such prices as the publishers might fix. All dealing in second-hand copies of copyrighted books would be made impossible. The whole point of this provision is that the publishers are not satisfied with the normal market. They wish Congress to enact a law that will produce this condition: whenever a reader may want a particular book, he will not be able to get the use of it from a circulating library, or to buy it at second hand, but he will be forced to buy from the publisher or the publisher's authorized agent, and at the price fixed by the publisher."

Referring to the bill as a whole, Mr. Porterfield sums up thus: "In conclusion it may be said that the policy of the copyright bill is bad, in that it is designed only for the benefit of copyright proprietors and wholly ignores the rights of the public."

May I inquire whether the American Library Association, which, I am told, was the only organization in the Copyright Confer-

ence that had no selfish interest, or that even remotely represented the rights of the public, proposes to uphold a bill embodying such policy? Each separate provision, I understand, was separately voted upon and the whole bill unanimously approved. Is it believable that the members of the American Library Association will ever approve such a provision as that referred to above, which would not only put out of business every circulating and proprietary library, but which might obviously be used by a publisher to prevent public libraries from obtaining and circulating any or all of his copyrighted books until he had thoroughly canvassed the field of private purchasers?

The likelihood of such action by a publisher may perhaps be indicated by a recent reply from a prominent New York house which, in response to an order from a public library, wrote that they were sorry they could not oblige in this matter, but the present edition was prepared for the use of certain reading circles only, and it would be some time, possibly a year, before this book would be placed on their trade list.

In view of the possibility of legislation so hostile to libraries—and no mention has been made here of the serious limitation of the right of importing—it is highly desirable for all librarians to send at once their adherence to the Library Copyright League, of which Mr. W. P. Cutter, Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass., is secretary. Two hundred and twenty persons, including, with few exceptions, those most prominent in library work have, I am told, already done so. There is no fee, and the only formality required is to send a letter to Mr. Cutter saying: "I desire to be enrolled as a member of the Library Copyright League, and to protest against any alteration in the existing law that will impose restrictions on the importation by libraries of any books except pirated editions."

Most important of all, librarians and trustees should at once write personal letters to their Senators and Representatives in Congress protesting against the proposed copyright law.

H. C. WELLMAN.

MADISON (WIS.) FREE LIBRARY BUILDING

IN February, 1906, the Madison Free Library took possession of its new \$75,000 building, the gift of Mr. Andrew Carnegie.

As the building is unusual in style of architecture and general plan and fittings, it may be of interest to librarians to have a description of it and a short account of how the plan was worked out.

When the Board of Trustees began to formulate plans for a building suited to the needs of the city, they found themselves confronted by more problems than are ordinarily presented in such cases. It was one of the conditions of Mr. Carnegie's gift that rooms

should be provided for the maintenance of a library school. It was also desired to furnish quarters for the Madison Art Association by providing connected rooms; with large enough wall space and proper equipment in the way of lighting for the exhibits held by them each year. Other features of the plan were to be an auditorium, men's newspaper and club rooms, and rooms for the meetings of literary clubs, of which there are many in Madison. All these things complicated the drawing of the plans and made necessary a very careful consideration in the choice of an architect.

Another point which the Board of Trustees felt was very important was the style of architecture to be adopted. The feeling had been growing among them that the classic style of architecture generally used for public library buildings is not well suited to small libraries, as it is too cold and formal a type; and so they decided that Madison's building should not "ape the imposing buildings erected for the great collections of books, used mainly to protect them for generations of students engaged in scholarly research," but rather "be suggestive of a city home for the study and reading of books and their further use for the general purposes of recreation and culture." This idea is so well expressed in an editorial in the *Architectural Record* for August, 1902 (12:352-53), that it is worth while to quote it here:

"The interior arrangements of the modern American libraries are in most cases managed with great ingenuity, and are admirably adapted, as many of the earlier American libraries were not, to the convenient circulation and economical storing of a larger or smaller number of books. But, however successfully these buildings are being planned, little or no headway has been made toward the development of a design, or of a type of design, which is appropriate to a library and which will tend to make libraries familiar and inviting to the people who use them.

"The majority of the designs are merely frigid examples of neo-classic schoolpieces. They look as if the architects, emancipated from the restraints under which they usually suffer in designing commercial buildings and residences, were irresistibly impelled to draw façades such as they are frequently obliged to draw during their school training, and so they get up some commonplace arrangement of columns, a pediment varied by arched or square openings, and flatly monotonous and uninteresting. No more depressing exposure could be conceived of the imitative and academic character of American design, and its inability when dealing with a fresh and interesting problem to treat it in a fresh and interesting way.

"A library is a place in which books are stored, and to which men go to read them in quiet and leisurely surroundings, and this description applies as well to public as to private libraries. The former necessarily possess more spacious dimensions and more abundant

facilities for the circulation of people and books; but the condition remains that it is the reading room which, from the point of view of the public, gives the building its character and associations. But a reading room is much more closely related to domestic architecture than it is to that of the senate and court houses. It is used by private people for their own private purposes, and not by public officials, whose duty it is to exact, execute and expound the laws; and the design of a building in which such a reading room is situated should be domestic, familiar and inviting—the sort of a building in which a man would go to read, and not to deliver an oration or to hand down a judicial decision.

"What, then, could be less appropriate than these frigidly and meaninglessly classical buildings, which have no associations with books, and which are entirely lacking in the atmosphere of quiet and retirement which is essential to any kind of a library? It is, of course, difficult and even impossible to get in a building of very large dimensions the effect and atmosphere mentioned above. A more stately and important air is not incongruous with the public library of a large city. This stateliness and importance need not indeed afford an excuse for an academic formalism of treatment, but it inevitably subtracts from the domestic atmosphere appropriate to a smaller library building.

"The consequence is that the more expensive structures in the larger cities tend to be the best, not only because they are usually designed by more skillful architects, but also because the prevailing classic and renaissance treatment is better adapted to a building of ample dimensions and imposing situation. In the smaller buildings, however, the architects, under the influence of their academic training and imitative methods, have gone utterly astray. They have designed merely a collection of marble and granite cold-storage for books, under the erroneous idea that everything public must be classical and irrelevant, and one of the most discouraging aspects of the matter is that in cases of competitions it was frequently the most stiff and wintry design of all which was selected. Mr. Carnegie could not perform a better service for American architecture than by placing the supervision of the designs of all the libraries for which he is paying in the hands of a well-chosen group of architects, who would have it in their power to emancipate the designing of small libraries from the colorless and meaningless formula which now prevails."

The Board of Trustees having determined to depart from the stereotyped form of library building, the question arose what style of architecture to adopt. To solve this problem they decided to employ the services of an architects' adviser, and selected Mr. Warren Powers Laird, head of the School of Architecture in the University of Pennsylvania. He advised the use of the collegiate Gothic style of architecture, as that would give an

entirely dignified and beautiful public building and yet would embody the home or residence idea; and also its grouping of windows in large window spaces made it especially adapted for a library building.

Three of the architectural firms who had done the best work in America in this particular style of architecture were invited to send in competitive plans, and the competition was also thrown open to all local architects who had been in practice over one year. The competition was won by the firm of Frank Miles Day & Brother, of Philadelphia, and the building as erected is substantially that of their original plan.

The residence idea was carried out, as far as possible, in all the interior furnishing of the building. In the main rooms, for instance, the Nernst lights were used in order to do away with table lights, which necessitate a formal arrangement of tables and chairs. In the reading room are found only two pieces of furniture of a distinctively formal library character—the periodical rack (which is built into the wall) and the attendant's desk. The other furniture is such as might be found in any private library—round tables, arm chairs and even rocking chairs. The deep window seats in the bay windows at each end of the room, and the mullioned windows with their little pots of primroses and cyclamen add to the home-like appearance.

One of the residents of Madison, making a tour of the building a day or two before it was formally opened to the public, said, as he stepped up to the entrance of the reading room, "Why, it looks just like a home library!" and this is the common impression made upon those who enter the room. One of the local press articles at the time of the library opening says: "All sorts and conditions of people are provided for, each in a manner to make the home-like feeling the first to possess the user of the library in any of its departments. No one who uses it can possibly avoid the sense of personal interest, almost individual ownership, in the books and papers within his reach, and the simple elegance of the new library building and its furnishings. The wide entrance has a look of freedom that is truly inviting. One would not look for a policeman there to tell him what he should not do, nor a whispering, tiptoeing librarian to tell him to be careful or to keep quiet. The sense of privilege pervades; the atmosphere carries a serious, studious tone."

The Board of Trustees feel, therefore, that they have attained the end toward which they worked, and that their idea of what a small public library building should express has been worked out, if not in a perfect, at least in a very satisfactory manner.

The detailed description of the building is as follows:

The lot is a corner one, one block from the main business square of the city. It is 132 feet square. The building is 102 feet deep. The width in front is 98 feet, but 72 feet back

it narrows to a width of 64 feet. Thus a space of 20 feet is left in front and on either side, for future extension, and 10 feet in the rear for a service driveway. The building has a high basement and two stories, the total height being 48 feet.

The materials of construction are, for foundations and bearing walls, brick and stone, with slow burning construction for partitions and floors. As the building is isolated and on a residence street, fire-proof construction was not considered necessary. The external walls are constructed of what is known as "Harvard" brick, in two colors, rose and black, with Bedford stone trimmings. The roof is of green slate. The interior woodwork is of quarter-sawn oak with a dull "weathered" finish. All loose furniture was sent unstained, so that it might be stained by the same workmen who did the wood work in the building.

The main entrance leads through a small vestibule to a large landing, from either side of which a broad stairway, broken by a landing half way down, leads to the basement hall, which runs across the width of the building, 40 x 13. Under the stairway are a janitor's sink and public toilet rooms, thus accessible without passage through library rooms. At the left end of the hall, as one goes down, is the men's club room, 17 x 23, connected by sliding doors with the newspaper room, 24 x 23. Each of these rooms has a separate entrance into the main hall. At the opposite end of the hall a door leads into a small passage connecting in front with the magazine storage room, 12 x 15, and in the rear with the work room, 18 x 24. Both of these rooms are fitted with movable shelving. Connected with the work room are the fire-proof vault, disinfecting closet, book lift, and vestibule to the outside service entrance. On the opposite side of this vestibule is the janitor's room. From the rear of the work room goes up the service stairway, which connects with the catalog room on the main floor. Directly back of the main hall and opening from it by three large double doors is the auditorium, with a seating capacity of about 400, and an outside exit on each side through small rear vestibules. Back of the auditorium are rooms for the mechanical plant, fuel, etc., with entrance upon service driveway.

Going back to the main entrance one ascends from the landing by a short flight of stairs to the level of the first floor. Here at the left is a drinking fountain. Four swinging doors, with glass in the upper half, lead into the delivery room. Over these doors is a large brass plate, framed in oak, with the inscription, "This library building was given by Andrew Carnegie to the city of Madison A.D. 1905." The coloring of walls and ceilings on this floor is a light cream, and the entire floor is covered with the best quality of cork carpet of a dark brown shade that matches the wood work.

The delivery room is 40 x 18. Extending

from it directly in front is the broad corridor leading to the stack room, and at either end are the arches opening into the reading room and children's room. These arches are beautiful in curve and proportion, and as they are 13 feet in length, they make a splendid vista from side to side of the building. The delivery room is panelled with oak to the height of seven feet, and this panelling forms a rich background for the one or two fine bits of statuary, and the facsimile copies of the Magna Charta and the Declaration of Independence that are hung there. An umbrella rack on either side of the entrance doors, and a single bulletin board are the only pieces of furniture.

The reading room, which occupies the front left corner of the building, is 48 x 23. An alcove, 18 x 9, opens from it. This has a glass partition looking into the delivery room, so that the alcove may be commanded from the delivery desk. The reading room has a large window seat built into the bay window at each end of the room; it has movable shelving all around the room seven feet high, except under the windows, where it is four feet high. The files of bound periodicals are shelved here. The rack for current periodicals is built into the space between the two archways into the alcove and the delivery room, and is panelled above to bring it on a line with the shelving. The tables are round, five feet in diameter and 29 inches high. The table in the alcove is a long one, 8 x 3½ feet.

The children's room has the same general shape and dimensions as the reading room, and is located in the opposite front corner of the building. A coat and wash room occupies some of the space at the rear, and this end of the room has solid shelving instead of a bay window as in the reading room. The shelving runs five feet high, and above it is a frieze made of the pictures from the Walter Crane picture books, each story framed by itself with a panel between each picture. The effect of the beautiful coloring of the frieze above the dark wood work is highly decorative.

The alcove has a long table, 8 x 3½ feet, and 28 inches high. In the alcove are placed the children's catalog, picture file, dictionary stand, etc., thus making it a sort of reference room. In the room itself only round tables are used, these being four feet in diameter and 28 inches high. One round table, six feet in diameter and 22 inches high, is provided for the very little people.

The delivery corridor is 30 x 23. It occupies the center of the building and is lighted by means of a light well on the second floor, with a sky-light above. The large octagonal charging desk, 16 feet in diameter, is pushed well up toward the front, leaving the rear of the corridor for the card catalog, and tables and inclined cases for the display of books. All switches for lights on this floor are at the charging desk.

The reference room is at the left of the

corridor, just back of the reading room, and has doors into the delivery room and the delivery corridor. It is 28 x 18; has glass partitions above three feet of shelving for its inside walls. It has special roller shelving for atlases, etc., and is furnished with long tables, 8 x 3½, set at regular intervals.

To the right of the corridor are the librarian's office, 19 x 12, and in front of it the catalog room, 19 x 14. These rooms both have glass partitions above three feet of shelving for the inside walls. The catalog room, beside shelving, has cupboards for supplies and a small coat closet for the use of the staff. A door in the front of the room leads into the service stairway, which goes from here down to the work room in the basement and up to the staff room on the second floor. The book lift opens into this entry and there is also here a lavatory for the staff.

The stack room extends across the rear of the building. It is 61 x 22. There are nine double-faced steel stacks 15 feet long, leaving a five-foot aisle between, and a window at the end of each aisle. Wall shelving is also put in along the side walls and shelving is run under the glass partitions looking into the librarian's office and the reference room. Space for a three-story stack is provided, the one in present use, on the main floor, being the middle one of the three.

The stairway to the second floor goes up on either side of the hallway to a landing half way up. On this landing are a large storage closet, and a public telephone booth. From the landing a single broad flight of stairs carries the ascent to the second floor. On either side, at the head of the stairs, are a small supply closet and janitor's sink. From the stairway the entrance is immediately into the exhibition hall. This is 40 x 20, and is lighted by a large sky-light, and also wired for special trough lighting. At the right end is a club room, 39 x 23. This room connects in the rear with the staff room.

At the left end of the exhibition hall is another club room, 42 x 23, which, by a folding panel in the middle, can be made into two rooms. This arrangement was made in order that the rooms might be used as lecture rooms for the library school.

At either end of the exhibition hall the space, 19 x 9, which extends toward the front of the building, directly over the two alcoves on the floor below, is made into cloak rooms for the use of clubs and the students of the library school.

The space just back of the exhibition hall, over the delivery corridor, is occupied mostly by the light well. A corridor five feet in width surrounds the light well; and the wall space, lighted by the sky-light, makes another excellent hall for art exhibits. Wiring for special trough lighting has also been provided here.

The staff room occupies the space over the catalog room, with which it connects by means of the service stairway. The book lift

also comes up here, and the room is fitted up with cupboards, drawers, sink, and gas heater.

JULIA A. HOPKINS, *Librarian.*

CATALOG GAME PLAYED IN THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S ROOM, FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY, NEW HAVEN, CT.

DURING the long school vacation many young people discovered the use of the card catalog by means of a game which was worked rather than played.

Attention was called to this game by means of a bulletin made up of illustrations from publishers' catalogs of the books whose titles were given, and the authors and call numbers of which were to be found. A note posted on this bulletin stated that paper and pencils would be furnished at the desk, questions would be answered and puzzles explained; also that the names of the young people whose papers were correct would be posted in the library, and at the end of vacation printed in a school paper and the New Haven newspapers.

Upon applying at the desk the child received a typewritten list of the 12 titles and then went directly to the catalog. A considerable amount of time and labor had been saved in preparing this list, for instead of printing one for each player, the same list was used for all by simply cutting the sheet so that the column of titles could be fastened on the top sheet of the pad at the left, thereby leaving room for the author and number on the corresponding line at the right. Some titles had been selected beginning with The and A. (No illustrations of books beginning with St., Mr., etc., happened to be found.) This was the first part of the game, and it was frequently tried, the children seeming to enjoy the search.

Part two, being harder, was tried by the older children only. Eight catalog cards, each with subject heading and author given, were handed to the child, and he was to find the title and call number of the book written by that author on that subject, the title and number to be written in the correct places. This helped to familiarize the searcher with subject headings and form of cards. Of course this game was entirely optional, and considering that it really was study during vacation we think the results were very satisfactory. Although the juvenile catalog was the one used, the children who tried the game now feel well acquainted with a dictionary catalog and could make intelligent use of the one in the main department.

As this form of card catalog instruction has been given during three summer vacations, the game has long since ceased to be an experiment, and we regard it as a permanent feature of our work with young people—at least as long as school children remain unacquainted with the alphabetical arrangement. GERTRUDE FITCH WHITE,

Children's Librarian.

CHILDREN AND THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Montrose J. Moses, in *New York Evening Post*,
Dec. 8, 1906

WHAT turned my attention first to a consideration of children's reading in the public libraries was standing close to a little urchin, several years ago, and watching him select his own book. What matter the title, or the author, or the story, there were the pictures, an indisputable fact of Indian and tomahawk. It was then I came to the conclusion that the publisher was wise who used an exciting frontispiece.

But that boy epitomized an evil—one which involved all children in relation to the public libraries. If there is truth in what Plato wrote about the beginning in every work being the most important part, "especially in dealing with anything young and tender," then there should have been some one nearby to have directed the hand of that child. In those years, New York City was doing practically nothing toward superintending the reading of young folks in the public libraries, except in so far as the books were selected and placed upon the open shelves. But by degrees, throughout the entire library field in this country, the importance of this one particular phase has assumed large proportions, and, to-day, it stands as one of the most difficult problems confronting librarians. . . .

Now, what does all this library activity betoken? We have given so much attention to the literary deluge as it has affected adult books, that many of us have failed to recognize the flood gates open as well in the children's world. I have watched this stream for four years. Every season it has repeated itself, and every year certain principles have stood out above the appalling fact of the volumes themselves. . . . Have you watched the breathlessness of a messenger boy, with his "Ragged Dick Series;" the intent, eager faces in the gallery during a melodrama? Nine times out of ten, morals are not being perverted, crime is not being glorified. But the good is winning its just deserts in a large way, and the boy *glows*. Not that I would have our libraries circulate "Ragged Dick," but there is more to remember in such stimulation, there is more *effect* than will ever be drawn from the conventional tale that has its customary noble and ignoble hero. The amount of inane literature concocted for children is pernicious.

There is an earnest effort on the part of librarians to weed out from the shelves an overabundance of the Alger and Stratemeyer and Dinsmore imitations. A certain responsibility should attach itself to the author of juvenile books; a responsibility which that author, in the face of a commercial proposition, generally fails to recognize.

BOOKS SUITABLE FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS

ONE of the exhibits being regularly made by a number of libraries is one of books suitable for Christmas gifts, to assist in the choice of such both for children and for grown people. Among the libraries that are doing this are the Buffalo (N. Y.) Public Library, the Washington (D. C.) Public Library, the Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn, N. Y., the East Orange (N. J.) Public Library, the Cleveland (O.) Public Library, the Carnegie Library, Atlanta, Ga. (these two for children only), the Utica (N. Y.) Public Library, and the City Library, Springfield, Mass. Of these at least the Washington, Atlanta, Pratt, East Orange and Utica libraries print lists, the last three printing this year the same list, which gives only the new books for adults. These libraries all show copies of the books themselves, such exhibits being much visited. The *A. L. A. Booklist* (November) contributes to this same end a list of "Some children's books suitable for gifts," covering six pages.

POOLE'S INDEX SUPPLEMENT

THIS year closes another five-year period for Poole's Index, and it is understood that Mr. Fletcher and Miss Poole have the material well in hand for the fifth five-year Supplement, to be issued as early as possible in 1907.

This Supplement will include all periodicals covered by the last Supplement that have continued in publication, with several important additions, besides the newer periodicals that have been covered by the Annual Indexes. Among other additions are the leading university periodicals, beyond the *Harvard Graduates' Magazine*, the *Technology Review*, and others formerly included. Among those listed for inclusion are the *Columbia University Quarterly*, the *University of Chicago Record*, the *University of Cincinnati Studies*, etc. The purpose of this note is to ask for suggestions of titles to be added to this list. Scientific and technical series cannot, of course, be included, and in indexing those serials that are included note will be taken only of the articles of general interest, the mass of material relating to domestic affairs of the individual institution being passed over.

It is believed that the inclusion of this line of periodicals will make the index increasingly useful in the larger libraries, especially in those of the colleges and universities, and will at the same time bring into deserved recognition and use much valuable material hitherto hidden away.

Suggestions as above are earnestly invited, and should be addressed to W. I. Fletcher, librarian of Amherst College, Amherst, Mass.

A CONGLOMERATE IN PERIODICALS: THE METHODIST REVIEW *

"A Conglomerate in periodicals," by C. H. Gillett, in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* for April, 1886, furnishes a striking instance of the difficulties which the author of Poole's Periodical Index had to encounter in the preparation of that great work. It is not surprising that in a few cases he made mistakes. His numbering on the *Methodist Review* is an instance. A statement concerning it may help librarians in perfecting their sets.

The periodical, now known as the *Methodist Review*, is in its 68th volume and fifth series. Its place of publication has always been New York. From January, 1818, to December, 1828 (11 years), it was called the *Methodist Magazine*, and was published monthly (except that during 1827 no November and December numbers were issued, but previous numbers were thickened to make a full complement of pages). No numbers were issued during 1830. The new series, 1830-40 (11 years), was called the *Methodist Magazine and Quarterly Review*, and was published quarterly. The third series, during 1841-48 (eight years), was called *Methodist Quarterly Review*, and was published quarterly. The fourth series, 1849-84 (36 years), was called *Methodist Quarterly Review*, and was published quarterly. The fifth series, since January, 1885, has been called simply *Methodist Review*, and has been published bi-monthly. From the beginning of the periodical to the present time each volume has been numbered on the title-page consecutively, and from the beginning of the new series both consecutively and serially, as, for example, "volume 67—fifth series, vol. 1." In the new series (the second), the publishers put both the consecutive and the serial numbers on the back of each bound volume; but in the third and fourth series they unfortunately put there only the serial number. On the outside some bound volumes showed the consecutive number and some the serial. The numbering on the outside should conform to the title-page, at least as to the consecutive number. This fact the publishers have again recognized by putting the consecutive number "67" on the outside of bound volumes of 1885. Their index to the first 63 volumes refers by consecutive number and by years.

Librarians, in binding, should follow the consecutive number, and then by an extra number, corresponding to the mistake in Poole's Index, render that work easily useful. The first Poole's Periodical Index Supplement should refer by the consecutive number, and so avoid trouble for the years later than 1881. Librarians should know that the volumes 1818-24 have each but one plate; that the volumes 1825-48 have each two plates; 1849,

January and October, plates; 1850, January, plate; 1853, January, plate; 1858, January, plate; 1859, January, plate; 1874, January, plate; 1879, January and October, plates; 1882, four plates; 1883, four plates; 1884, January, April and July, plates; 1885, six plates. The index for 1849 was not published until the January number for 1850.

J. C. THOMAS.

Librarian Methodist Library.

SOCIAL EDUCATION CONGRESS, BOSTON, MASS., NOV. 30-DEC. 2, 1906.

THE Social Education Congress was called in order to bring together all the existing forces of the community, the home, the church, the schools, the libraries, business and industry, to consider the adjustment of all social relations in accordance with the spirit of brotherhood and mutual helpfulness. A similar conference is planned for next year.

This Congress was held on the initiative of the Social Education Club, of Boston, and with the co-operation of twenty-six societies, of which the American Library Association was one. The committee to represent the A. L. A., appointed by President Andrews, was Dr. H. G. Wadlin, Boston Public Library, chairman; S. W. Foss, Somerville (Mass.) Public Library, and C. K. Bolton, Boston Athenæum Library, with Miss N. E. Browne, A. L. A. Publishing Board, as secretary to the committee. The different section meetings were on "Social training in infancy and early childhood," "Commercial education," "Health education," "Industrial education," "Self organized group work," "Special school classes for troublesome children," and "The relation of the library to social education." There were mass meetings on "Education for citizenship," "The school as a social organism," "The school and the family," "Industrial education," and "Education of the conscience." The Massachusetts State Teachers' Association held two meetings during the Congress. Many of the men and women eminent in education and in the investigation of social problems read papers at the Congress, and it is to be hoped that full Proceedings will be published. This is assured if there is sufficient interest in them, and this may be expressed, and all inquiries may be directed to the corresponding secretary, Frank Waldo, Room 37, Rogers Building, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston.

Dr. Horace G. Wadlin presided at the section session on "The relation of the library to social education," and in his address spoke of "The social ideal to-day: can the public library assist its advancement?" He said, in part: "The central problem in education at present has to do with the training for effective vocational service. The public

* This note was found among the Rev. Mr. Thomas's papers after his death.

school system is being modified with reference to this problem. But the library supplements the work of the school by providing for its pupils, as well as for large numbers of young artisans or mechanics who, on account of age or restricted opportunity, have had no school training, books in all departments of the arts and sciences which would otherwise be beyond their reach.

"There is also the social need of a clearer comprehension of our civic duties. The public library is the one available source from which the young voter, or the untrained voter of any age, may obtain the books that contain the record of past political action, or which enforce the principles that are moving men to-day towards a better citizenship.

"Finally, under the inspiration of the present social ideal, we hold that the higher ranges of literature shall not be forever unknown to the people at large, but that gradually they may be brought to feel the influence of books which are neither handbooks of technical knowledge nor manuals of civic duty. In this field also, the public library has opportunities and responsibilities beyond those of any other educational institution. It freely supplies books that are literature purely, and provides intelligent direction in their use; books which 'humanize their readers and make them more humane.'

"There is nothing impracticable or vague in the present effort towards social betterment, and those who administer the public library may greatly assist the movement. But to achieve the highest results the librarian must have not only intellectual culture, but spiritual insight and sympathy, and an appreciation of the world outside of books, beyond the library walls."

Dr. Wadlin was followed by Mr. John Cotton Dana, of the Newark Free Public Library, who spoke on "Many-sidedness of interest: how a library promotes it." After an introduction on the use of the library for research, for pleasure and for the broadening of life by interest, and pointing out that social efficiency is brought about by voluntary co-operation, Mr. Dana said:

"The public library, like the public school, is the product of mutual aid, of a co-operation primarily voluntary. It is, in turn, itself a factor, and as such adds to social efficiency, not by teaching directly how effectively to organize and co-operate, but by promoting sympathy. It exposes to many the similarities between manners, ideals and aims which seem at first quite dissimilar. Government, diplomacy, war—these are on the surface in our relations with other nations, for example, the Orientals. These superficial international relations point to a substratum of individual ignorance, narrowness and selfishness. We first ignore, then despise, then fear, then hate the alien. But contact opens our eyes. We soon find that though his manners are strange, they are harmless; that

though his ideals are curiously expressed, they are high; that though his aims are not what we inherit, they are worthy. Then we applaud, we sympathize, we co-operate—and peace is here."

He then dealt with the methods of inducing interest, the one on which he dwelt being the "making known of its powers." After detailing various ways of giving publicity to the library and its contents, Mr. Dana ended his address as follows:

"The library, then, should be accumulative of books, hospitable to students, a sedative for quietists, and provocative of interests, and the last is not least. To be stimulating it must be known, easily reached, and by post and telephone easily bespoken.

"Through all this paper I have assumed, what librarians know quite well, that in a library's books are found all the interests of life; I point my story once more by saying that it is one of the library's duties to make known to its people that this is true; and that in their books are all the thoughts and deeds and dreams of all men, and that through these, their books, they may get the broad and wholesome view of things."

Discussion on this paper was led by Mr. Sam Walter Foss, of Somerville.

The next paper was by Miss Grace Blanchard, librarian of the Concord (N. H.) Public Library, on "The public library as a quarry." She said, in part:

"Statues and paving-stones, the beautiful and useful, are latent in the public library as in a quarry. It includes potentially all other means of social amelioration, as it may inspire to nobler deeds of every kind. Alike from Poole sets and from this month's magazines pours a flood of testimony that the public library is a leading factor in social education; the burden of proof rests with those who hold a contrary opinion."

The discussion on Miss Blanchard's paper was led by Mr. George H. Tripp, New Bedford (Mass.) Public Library.

The last address of the session was by Mr. Arthur E. Bostwick, of the New York Public Library, on "The library as a conservative force." Mr. Bostwick's theme was the value of books as an inert force, enabling the world to keep in touch with the past.

"Books enable us to keep in touch with everything of value that has been done in the past, and especially with everything that is in the line of racial progress, so that we may go on in a direct course without retracing our steps. A collection of books is a conservative force in much the same sense as inertia in mechanics: it makes for steady collective progress along the lines of previous endeavor, and discourages erratic spurts and excursions, which use up valuable energy. In particular, it is a conservator of our written language, which has now earned the right to be considered by itself and not merely as a representative of the spoken tongue."

LIBRARY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES

In Bulletin 50, of the United States Bureau of the Census, "Statistics of cities having a population of over 30,000, 1904," one apparently finds information regarding the receipts and expenditures of libraries in cities of over 30,000. The information is really misinformation, and librarians may save themselves trouble if they make no attempt to learn facts from the tables given—with this exception, that very probably the amounts paid for salaries are correctly given. This is not to say that the figures given by the Census Bureau are not those given by city officials, but the fact is that the city books do not show the facts as the library would report them.

The significance of the figures is wholly lost, for example, when the city books show orders presented during the year, while the library reports orders drawn. In this way in New Haven the city accounts might show practically 11 months, 12 months or 13 months in different years, while the 12 months is the period understood. Table 5 of Census Bulletin shows payments of libraries for (a) "Salaries and wages," (b) "All other." In point of fact, payments for books appear sometimes to be deducted without any statement of this procedure. Why not also, then, payments for periodicals, many of which become books by binding? This table is fairly complete, and does probably give the amounts paid for salaries correctly.

Table 3 gives "payments, receipts and cash balances, by independent divisions and funds."

This table is very incomplete as regards libraries. Group II omits libraries of Washington, Minneapolis, Providence, St. Paul, Rochester, Kansas City, Mo., Toledo, Denver, Allegheny, Columbus, Worcester, Los Angeles, Omaha, Syracuse, Scranton, Fall River, Portland, Ore., that is the large majority—17 out of 25—of the cities with populations of 100,000 to 300,000.

The following statement exhibits the variations between the library report, which shows the facts for the actual 12 months, and the census figures taken from the city books, which show orders presented during the same period, though not all drawn during that period—for New Haven.

Payments to public, Library \$21,966, Census, \$24,476.

Payments to departments, offices, etc., Library \$1111.73, Census nothing.

Cash on hand at end of year, Library .27, Census \$1150.

Aggregate of all payments, and cash on hand at end of year, Library, \$21,966, Census \$25,426.

Cash on hand at beginning of year, Library \$3.90, Census \$2313.

Receipts from the public, Library \$1111.73, Census \$1150.

Receipts from departments, offices, industries and funds, Library \$21,963, Census same.

One unfortunate result of these last two columns classifying sources of income is that what is really the same thing may be in either column, and one cannot tell why without special knowledge. A city appropriation appears to belong in the last column, while the proceeds of a library tax go in the other column. This is confusion, and deprives us of information which we would like, namely, what money comes from taxes, directly or indirectly, and what from gift and endowment. It appears that the Census is technically correct while really wrong. What we want is the truth (as far as possible), rather than what we have.

Another point in which most library reports are deficient. They do not enumerate expense borne by other departments. For example, in New Haven the library does not pay for its stationery, for water, or for insurance. Neither does it pay interest on bonds issued for the cost of the building. A faithful account of the money expended by the city on account of the library ought to include these items.

WILLIS K. STETSON,

New Haven (Ct.) Public Library.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR SCHOLARS

ANY collection of books, public or private, ought to have as its highest function the assistance of those who wish to learn something. The grace of sane entertainment is not despised by any tolerant person, but the highest human privilege is to learn. Novels are the cheapest books in any library, by class, and the easiest to obtain. They are sold at 49 cents by department stores, and circulated for almost nothing by bookstores. Text books are expensive.

In almost any normal city there are more people who have to make a living than there are people who have time to kill. People who have to make a living could make a better living if they knew more about their own business and what others have done in it.

The public library ought first of all to be for scholars; and it ought first of all to remember that the painter's apprentice, or carpenter, or boiler-maker, or messenger boy who wishes to study something is quite as important a scholar as a Greek professor. This is no heresy. Every important library in the world has adopted this point of view. In other words, even in public libraries everywhere, the reaction is to see the department of books that costs money and is worth money (because it gives information), as properly the backbone of the whole.

Charles F. Lummis, in *Out West*, September.

State Library Commissions

NEBRASKA LIBRARY COMMISSION:

Chancellor Andrews having resigned the presidency of the commission, Mr. F. L. Halter, of Omaha, was elected president at the regular quarterly meeting, Nov. 1. Mr. Halter held the office before Chancellor Andrews's term.

NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT: Educational Extension Division. W. R. Eastman, chief, State Library, Albany.

The annual report of the Public Libraries Division (which became on Jan. 1, 1906, the Educational Extension Division) for the year ending Sept. 30, 1905, is made by Mr. Dewey, director during that period. The statistics of 1243 New York state libraries take 122 pages of the report. The additions to these libraries for the year number 458,573, the total now being 8,158,940. Almost one-half this number are in New York City. The total circulation from free libraries was 12,075,662, a daily average of 33,084.

The new buildings completed and occupied during the year number 30, of which 19 are in Greater New York, and 25 are the gift of Andrew Carnegie. Vassar College Library was given by Mrs. Frederick Ferris Thompson, the Utica building was built by the city, and that at Watertown is the gift of Mrs. Emma Flower Taylor. At Solvay the Solvay Process Company shared the gift with Mr. Carnegie. Eight libraries have better accommodations in new buildings or rooms, and 14 new branch libraries have been opened. Thirteen new buildings are in process of construction.

During the year two absolute and eight provisional charters were granted to libraries, eight provisional charters previously granted were made absolute, three charters were amended, eight library transfers were approved, and as a consequence of one transfer and consolidation one charter was surrendered. There are now 244 independent libraries registered, besides two chartered institutes and one museum maintaining libraries.

The inspector, sub-inspector and one assistant visited 209 libraries in 45 counties. Of these 19 had not been reached before. Allotments of public money were made to 271 libraries, including branches, the sum total being \$24,239.91. Applications to the amount of \$10,772 more were approved, but the appropriation was limited to the first named sum. Twenty-three certificates of approved circulation were issued to 17 libraries and branches that are free for public use, though controlled by private corporations. Their applications for local aid by public taxation were based on statements and figures thus certified.

In Greater New York three libraries are supported by city taxation—the New York Public, the Brooklyn Public, and the Queens-

borough libraries. There are 20 other free public libraries in the five boroughs. The total number of volumes in all free public libraries in the city was 1,305,698, and the circulation was 6,717,107.

Greater New York paid to her libraries \$627,951.78; Buffalo, \$77,332.62; Syracuse, \$55,000; Utica, \$18,000; Albany, \$11,000; Poughkeepsie, \$6800; New Rochelle, \$9000, and Niagara Falls, \$8200.

The summary of library legislation, the records of gifts to New York libraries, and the record of library meetings are given as usual. An outline of the essentials in cataloging small libraries takes two pages.

There is included a table of Andrew Carnegie's gifts to libraries, 1881-1904, by states. The total is \$39,325,240.

VERMONT BOARD OF LIBRARY COMMISSIONERS: Edward M. Goddard, chairman, Montpelier.

The sixth biennial report of the board, for the two years ending June 30, 1906, reports the founding of free public libraries in seven towns, to each of which \$100 worth of books have been furnished by the commissioners. Another town has voted to maintain a library, and will receive state aid.

In 1905 the publication of a quarterly bulletin was begun, to furnish information to the libraries of the state, and to supply a means of communication between librarians and the commission. Every public library in the state is given the *A. L. A. Booklist*, and 40 copies of *Public Libraries* are sent to as many libraries. Gifts to libraries are recorded in a tabular statement, as is the use of travelling libraries (by counties). There is a chronological list of over a hundred libraries established since 1895 by the aid of the commission, and a library map of the state is given. There are plates showing exteriors, interiors and floor plans of Vermont libraries, and an interesting lot of "Library notes." The pamphlet closes with "The laws of Vermont relating to the establishment of public libraries."

State Library Associations

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President: George F. Bowerman, Public Library.

Secretary: Earl G. Swem, Library of Congress.

Treasurer: Henry S. Parsons, Office of Documents.

The 94th regular meeting of the association was held in the lecture room of the Public Library, Wednesday evening, Oct. 17, 1906. There had been no meeting of the association since April 25, 1906.

The papers presented were short. Miss Eunice R. Oberly, of the Library of the Bureau of Plant Industry, described her visit to the Library School of Simmons College, Bos-

ton, calling attention to the advantages of the course in library science at that institution. She also gave in more detail an account of the bibliographic index of North American fungi in the Library of Harvard University. Miss Grace B. Finney, of the Public Library, presented observations while on a recent trip to New York City upon the libraries of the city, but especially upon those branches of the Public Library established on the East Side, which have exclusively the patronage of the foreign population. Mr. Torstein Jahr, of the Library of Congress, recently returned from a three months' visit to Norway, spoke of the growth of libraries in that country. Reference was made especially to the libraries of Christiania. Some of the leading librarians had received their training in library work in America. The influence of American ideas upon the management of libraries was very noticeable. Mr. George F. Bowerman, librarian of the Public Library, described his recent trip to the Pacific coast and Alaska, referring in detail to several libraries, especially those at Victoria, Vancouver and Dawson. The most interesting, perhaps, was the library in Dawson, on account of its situation so far north. The library is housed in a building given by Mr. Carnegie, and is supported by the territorial government. No book is lent unless the full value is deposited. The reading room is also a smoking room. The earliest papers received are those from Seattle, which are then two weeks old.

After the regular program, the members of the association and their friends adjourned to the new children's room, where refreshments were served.

The 95th regular meeting was held in the children's room of the Public Library, Wednesday evening, Nov. 21, 1906.

Mr. Henry R. Evans, of the Bureau of Education, had for the subject of his paper the library of the Bureau of Education. Mr. Evans reviewed the history of the bureau, showing how, from its establishment in 1867, the library had been one of the important departments. At the outset the attempt was made to collect complete sets of catalogs of state and city school systems, colleges and universities, both in this country and abroad. Special care is taken at the present time to keep the sets of catalogs complete to date. The real nucleus of the library was Commissioner Barnard's library of 900 selected books on pedagogy, which were purchased from him at the time he resigned as commissioner. The library now has 82,000 volumes. It remained unclassified until 10 years ago, when the books were arranged according to the Dewey decimal system. It is mainly a working library, intended for the use of the specialists of the bureau. One of the problems facing the bureau is more room for the library. Mr. Evans closed with a tribute to Dr. W. T. Harris, Commissioner of Education for so many years. Under Dr. Harris the policy of the bureau had

been strongly emphasized to aid in every way the public libraries of the country.

Mr. Claude B. Guittard, now of the Library of Congress, but formerly librarian of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, read a paper upon the Library of the Coast and Geodetic Survey. When the survey was authorized in 1807 President Jefferson commissioned Mr. F. R. Hassler to obtain the necessary equipment in Europe. Mr. Hassler considered certain books as essential to the success of the undertaking as instruments, and accordingly purchased fundamental reference books in mathematics, astronomy and surveying. These books form the basis for the present library. The library proper comprises some 30,000 volumes, confined to mathematics and physical geography, astronomy, physics, terrestrial magnetism, physical hydrography and geophysics. It has been the policy in recent years to weed out all dead and out-of-date material. The collection as shelved is classified by a combination of the expansive and decimal systems. The expansive system is used for geographical literature, and the decimal system for the remainder of the library. The survey exchanges publications with practically all the bureaus of the world issuing maritime charts. Material thus received forms the larger part of the 38,000 maps and charts in the collection. The survey has a force of men in the field all the time collecting geodetic, hydrographic and magnetic data necessary for the compilation of accurate charts. The results of this field work, with the subsequent computations, are contained in some 60,000 volumes of records, 6000 hydrographic and plane table sheets, and 5000 photographic negatives.

EARL G. SWEM, *Secretary*.

INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President: Miss Virginia Tutt, Public Library, South Bend.

Secretary: Miss Sue Beck, Public Library, Crawfordsville.

Treasurer: Demarchus C. Brown, State Library, Indianapolis.

The annual meeting of the Indiana Library Association, held at Kokomo, Oct. 18 and 19, was marked by good attendance, keen interest and valuable addresses. Informal discussions enlivened all sessions, and more association business was transacted than has been usual at the annual meetings. Of unusual interest were the amendments to the constitution by which the effectiveness of the association is expected to be increased, and the consideration of librarians' salaries in Indiana.

Following the welcome extended by Miss Edith Trimble, librarian of the Kokomo Public Library, Miss Lillian B. Arnold, president of the association, gave the annual address and reviewed the history and work of the Indiana Library Association. The sessions which followed were in the nature of library institutes, with Miss Mary W. Plummer, di-

rector of the Pratt Institute School for Library Training, as the leader. Her three addresses were "The librarian's duty to himself," "Management of a small library" and "Work for children in the library." The speaker's experience and wisdom were shown in her treatment of these subjects, and general discussions followed each address. Valuable suggestions were given by many librarians who were carrying on unique features of the work in their libraries. Two good contributions were given by Miss Ethel McCullough, of the Elwood Public Library, on the use of newspaper and magazine clippings in a library, and on the Citizenship League of girls and boys in Elwood.

The reception at the Kokomo Library on the evening of Oct. 18 followed an interesting address by Demarchus C. Brown, on the duties and privileges of a librarian.

Miss Arlena Chapin, of the Muncie Public Library, introduced the question of librarians' salaries in Indiana. She believed that these salaries were too low for the qualifications and equipment demanded, and suggested that a committee be appointed to investigate the question. Miss Chapin was made chairman, and W. M. Hepburn, of the Purdue University Library, and Miss Virginia Tutt, of the South Bend Library, were put on the committee to report at the next annual meeting of the association. The Public Library Commission of Indiana has been collecting library statistics, including the salaries of library workers and their training, and will co-operate with the committee in its work. Tables showing the tax levy, cost of maintaining the library, amount expended for books, training demanded of the librarian, and other information relating to the salary question will be secured.

Important changes in the constitution were made. Individual voting by members of the association was substituted for unit voting by libraries. The eligibility requirements for admission to the association were broadened to allow membership to any person interested in the objects of the association. Persons not actively identified with library work must be received through vote of the executive board.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: president, Miss Virginia Tutt, South Bend; vice-president, Miss Ethel McCullough, Elwood; secretary, Miss Sue Beck, Crawfordsville; treasurer, Demarchus C. Brown, Indianapolis. CHALMERS HADLEY.

KANSAS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President: Miss Lida Romig, Public Library, Abilene.

Secretary: Mrs. Nellie G. Beatty, Public Library, Lawrence.

Treasurer: Miss Lula M. Knight, Public Library, Newton.

The sixth annual meeting of the Kansas Library Association was held at Lawrence, Oct. 25-26, with the largest attendance in the

history of the organization. An encouraging representation from small libraries in distant localities was made possible by the generous response of library boards to the recommendation that they pay the expenses of their librarians attending. Another gratifying feature was the sending of a delegate by the second district Federation of Woman's Clubs, and the expressed desire of other district federations that the invitation to do so had been received early enough to appoint delegates.

The first session convened Thursday afternoon at 2.30 o'clock, President J. N. Wilkinson presiding. The meetings were all held in the assembly room of the Lawrence Public Library, and guests availed themselves of many opportunities to inspect the beautiful building.

In the absence of Chancellor Strong, of the Kansas University, Vice-Chancellor Carruth welcomed the visitors. He made the encouraging statement that most western libraries are better in quality than eastern, have less rubbish and fewer duplicates. He further stated that Lawrence has probably more books than any other town in the state, the university alone containing 52,000 volumes, nearly all good books. After earnestly commending to librarians the value of newspapers, diaries, etc., he urged that each library be made a collecting station for the State Historical Society, and that no bit of historical information be allowed to escape.

Mr. J. R. Griggs, president of the Board of Directors of the Lawrence Public Library, extended cordial greetings in behalf of the city. Mr. Griggs deplored the lack of influence and effort on the part of officials and librarians in getting various classes of people to become patrons of libraries and readers of free books. He laid stress upon the importance of a home-like library, a smiling welcome, and tactful guidance of readers to better books, and especially urged librarians to find means to induce mechanics and workers in various trades, those who have not the means to purchase books, to read such as would aid and advance them in their chosen profession.

President Wilkinson thanked the welcomers for greetings and advice, and then spoke appreciatively of library work.

In presenting the subject of cataloging and the using of Library of Congress cards, Mrs. Rosa M. Hibbard, of the State Library, offered many helpful suggestions. She advised the gathering of all tools available in the way of reference books. She called attention to the many valuable simple tools that can be obtained at little cost, such as bulletins, printed catalogs, lists, etc., and asserted that a few dollars invested in the dictionary catalogs of our larger libraries would reap more harvest to the busy librarian than would the more pretentious works. Especial attention was called to Miss Hitchler's

paper on "Cataloging for small libraries," which appeared in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* for January, 1904, and to Miss Van Valkenburgh's paper on "Common sense in cataloging small libraries," read at the Narragansett Conference. The speaker strongly advised the use of Library of Congress cards. For a fuller discussion of this subject the hearers were referred to the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* for June, 1906, which contains a paper by Mr. Hicks on "Library of Congress classification and its printed catalog cards," supplemented by reports from various librarians as to the use of these cards in their respective libraries.

Mrs. Hibbard closed with the hope that the Library of Congress and the A. L. A. Publishing Board would continue to simplify the work of the busy librarian.

At the evening session a large audience gathered to hear Miss Faith E. Smith, librarian of the Public Library of Sedalia, Mo. Miss Smith has given much attention to library work for children, and offered from her experience and study much that should profit her hearers. She limited her consideration of the subject to work in small libraries with meager incomes. Granting that better work can be done for children in a separate room and with a special librarian, she pointed out the advantages to children of association with older people, of acquaintance with the head librarian, and of earlier knowledge of the general library.

In considering ways and means of attracting children to the building and the books, prominence was given to the story hour, the picture bulletin, and to special exhibits. "Make the story hour count for something," urged the speaker. "It is my theory that it is not necessary, neither is it worth while, to tell stories from books that children will read of their own accord. The story hour is such an excellent opportunity to open the eyes of the children to the fact that the real things and the true are at the same time interesting. One of our most successful stories was about bees. It was conducted by a kindergartner who illustrated her work with her own drawings of various parts of the bee."

The remainder of the evening the visitors and their friends were delightfully entertained by ex-Senator and Mrs. Henley.

Friday morning at 8 o'clock the librarians were conveyed in automobiles to the State University, which possesses one of the choicest college sites in this country. Miss Watson and her able assistants received the visitors and introduced them to the secrets of the well systematized library. After visiting many of the fine buildings on the campus, the guests assembled in the chapel to listen to an impressive address by Rev. Cyrus Flint Stimpson, pastor of the Congregational Church, of Kansas City, Mo.

Again the guests were met by automobiles and taken to Haskell Institute to inspect the work of the Indian students, and marvellous

work it is, especially the artistic and imitative work. Suddenly the music of a band, an Indian band, called the guests to the campus to watch the erstwhile children of the wild march in disciplined ranks to their mess hall. Superintendent and Mrs. Pearce then conducted the visitors to a private dining room, where luncheon was served by Indian girls.

At 2.30 o'clock the closing session of the meeting opened. The following officers were elected for the coming year: president, Miss Lida Romig, Public Library, Abilene; first vice-president, Mr. J. N. Wilkinson, Emporia; second vice-president, Miss Clara Francis, assistant, State Historical Society, Topeka; third vice-president, Mrs. Rosa M. Hibbard, assistant, State Library, Topeka; secretary, Mrs. Nellie G. Beatty, Public Library, Lawrence; treasurer, Miss Lula M. Knight, Public Library, Newton; additional member of executive board, Miss Dora Renn, assistant, State University Library, Lawrence.

The advisory committee made the following report:

1. The committee recommends that the constitution of the K. L. A. be so amended as to provide for a permanent advisory board, said board to be constituted as per constitutional amendment herewith submitted, members to be elected at this meeting for terms of one, two and three years, respectively.

Amendment. There shall be an advisory board of one member elected each year for a term of three years. The member serving the last year of a term shall during that year be chairman of that board.

2. Realizing the great need in Kansas of a state library organizer, the committee recommends that such an organizer be provided and that the executive committee of K. L. A. be *ex-officio*, a committee of this association to work with the Kansas Travelling Libraries Commission to secure such legislation at the coming session of the legislature as will make possible the appointment of a library organizer.

3. That our advisory board be instructed to investigate the matter of a magazine clearing house for the state, and advise establishing one at once under the direction of the Kansas Travelling Libraries Commission.

Report accepted and amendment adopted.

Advisory board appointed for 1907: Mr. James L. King, State Library, Topeka, one year term; Mrs. Sara Judd Greenman, Public Library, Kansas City, two years term; Miss Carrie M. Watson, University Library, Lawrence, three years term.

The following resolutions were presented and adopted:

Resolved, That the Kansas Library Association regards the method formerly in use by the Superintendent of Documents as more satisfactory than the present method, and therefore respectfully recommends that he issue duplicate cards for public documents in sufficient numbers to cover all added entries.

Resolved, That in the death of Mr. Edward Wilder, the Kansas Library Association has lost a

friend whose place will never be filled: that we wish to bear testimony to the help Mr. Wilder has given to this association and to the library interests of the state by his ever-ready encouragement, his genial personality, and his practical knowledge of library needs.

Newton renewed the invitation of the previous year, and was chosen as the place of the 1907 meeting.

Miss Clara Francis, of the State Historical Society, Topeka, gave a pleasing account of the Narragansett Pier Conference. She said, in part: "I regret that Kansas had not a larger representation. There were only two from this state. There was much to interest a western librarian at this meeting. It was a thoroughly eastern one, and for that reason was to the searcher after local color full of possibilities; the environment, everything, was typical and correspondingly enjoyable."

Miss Elva E. Clarke, librarian of the State Normal School, Emporia, gave a brief account of the same meeting.

Informal two-minute reports from librarians present showed everywhere increased facilities and growing circulation. The most unusual feature reported was reference work with country schools by telephone. This is carried on extensively at Downs. The reports brought the librarians into closer touch, and caused them to disperse with a feeling of satisfaction in the rapid and successful development of library work in Kansas.

In every way and by every one the 1906 meeting was pronounced both a benefit and a delight, and much gratitude was expressed to the Lawrence librarians and friends for their untiring efforts to make it both.

LIDA ROMIG, *President*.

MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President: Arthur J. Roberts, Colby College, Waterville.

Secretary: Gerald G. Wilder, Bowdoin College Library, Brunswick.

Treasurer: Miss Alice C. Furbish, Public Library, Portland.

The 13th meeting of the Maine Library Association was held at Waterville, Nov. 14, with President Roberts in the chair. The morning session opened with an attendance of about 75, in the Public Library, at 10.30 o'clock, when Rev. Edwin C. Whittemore, D.D., welcomed the association to the city of Waterville. Mr. Whittemore spoke briefly of the history of the Waterville libraries. Mrs. Kate C. Estabrooke, of the Maine Library Commission, responded for the association. The principal speaker of the morning was Miss Mary E. Robbins, assistant professor of library science at Simmons College, who spoke on "Some library aids." Among other aids Miss Robbins discussed from the practical side the A. L. A. publications, periodical circulation, substitutes for the accession book and aids for the children's room. Miss Florence E. Dunn, of Waterville (B. L.

S., N. Y., 1902), read a paper on "Our friend, the catalog." State Librarian Ernest W. Emery read a letter from Charles F. Lummis, librarian Los Angeles Public Library, on "Popularizing a public library." The afternoon session opened with an attendance of about 100, the largest number yet recorded at a technical session of the association. Last April one trustee was present. At this session 16 were counted. The session was opened by an account of the "Beginnings of the library movement at Freeport," by Miss Annette H. Aldrich, librarian of the B. H. Bartol Library, of Freeport. Miss Annie Prescott, librarian, Auburn Public Library, spoke on the "Need of optimism in public library work." Sixteen people from Maine were present at the A. L. A. Conference at Narragansett Pier, and five of these, Prof. Hartshorn, Prof. Little, Mr. Emery, Miss Furbish and Miss Dunmore spoke of their impressions of that meeting. This was followed by a paper on "People and the library," by Miss Louise H. Coburn, trustee, Coburn Library of Skowhegan, and an address by Chaplain C. A. Plumer, librarian at the state prison, on "The use of the prison library." The session was concluded by the question box, which was conducted by George T. Little, librarian of Bowdoin College.

Throughout the program discussion was freely engaged in on many points that were brought out in the papers. All the papers of the meeting will be collected and printed as the proceedings of the association in the Bangor *Commercial* for Dec. 1 or 8, 1906. They will also be printed one a week in the Tuesday edition of the Lewiston *Journal*.

The evening session was held in the Colby College Chapel, where practically every seat was filled. A brief musical and literary program preceded the evening address, which was given by Melvil Dewey, LL.D.

GERALD G. WILDER, *Secretary*.

MISSOURI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President: W. L. Gifford, Mercantile Library, St. Louis.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Flora B. Roberts, Normal School, Warrensburg.

The seventh annual meeting of the Missouri Library Association, held at Joplin, Nov. 8, was called to order by the president, Miss Sula Wagner, of the St. Louis Public Library.

Senator Hugh McIndoe, vice-president of the Joplin Board of Trustees, welcomed the association to Joplin, and spoke of the great mining and stone industries in the vicinity of the city. Senator McIndoe also talked on "The trustee as legislator." He presented the idea that the librarian should have power to employ and discharge assistants, and also in the general management of the library. Mr. Purd B. Wright responded with a paper on "The librarian as executive." He said in part that nothing will so appeal to a board of

trustees as a practical demonstration on the part of the librarian that she is competent to fill the position, that the trustees will concede that the librarian knows about books, but that they have little respect for the librarian's business ability until it has been fully demonstrated. He said the librarian should attend all board meetings and should be as familiar with the business side of the administration as with the more intellectual side of selecting books. The librarian should know the sources from which library revenue is derived. Mr. Wright made further suggestions along purely business lines in the management of a library.

Mr. Wright begged permission to move that in view of Mr. Crunden's illness the secretary be instructed to send a telegram to Mrs. Crunden expressing the sympathy of the association, with a hope for Mr. Crunden's speedy recovery. The motion was carried unanimously.

By courtesy of the Commercial Club of Joplin the members of the Missouri Library Association enjoyed an automobile ride Wednesday p.m. until 3.30. The second session was opened by Miss M. L. Dalton, librarian of the Missouri Historical Society, St. Louis, with a paper on "The preservation of historical material in public libraries." The difficulty in procuring valuable historical material was a strong point. Few people realize the importance of original documents and therefore they are not brought to light. She said all the western states look to the Missouri Historical Society for material. The history of the West is incorporated in the early history of Missouri. Mr. F. A. Sampson, of the State Historical Society of Missouri, in discussing the matter said that books published one hundred years ago are more easily obtainable than the paper-bound pamphlets of to-day, which are looked upon as worthless and are destroyed.

Miss Marguerite McDaniel, Sedalia Public Library, in her paper on "Comparative study of things that libraries have done to rouse public interest," said the first efforts are to come from the inside, with plenty of good books, properly cataloged, and efficient service. She then gave a tabulated list of means to be used in advertising a library. Discussion was led by Miss Flora Roberts, librarian Normal School Library, Warrensburg, and Miss Ella Buchanan, librarian Public Library, Pittsburg, Kansas.

The feature of the evening was an address by Dr. L. M. McAfee, president of Park College, Parkville, on "The highest value of a library to a community," delivered to an attentive audience.

On Thursday, Nov. 8, the members of the association went to Carthage on the electric car, and were there welcomed by Col. W. K. Caffee, president of the Carthage Board of Directors. Mr. Willis Kerr, librarian of Westminster College, Fulton, roused an animated discussion in his presentation of the

subject "Developing a college library." Fiction reading in college libraries was taken up, and it was shown that the tasks assigned students left little time or inclination for reading in a lighter vein. That the college librarian should be a member of the faculty was strongly indorsed. Superintendent White, of Carthage, said the librarian should be classed with other professors; he is the "professor of books."

The question box was a unique device arranged by Miss Elizabeth Wales, librarian of Carthage. The association was divided into groups of four by means of checks designated A, B, C, and D. The president appointed a leader for each group and the questions were divided. The sections discussed answers to the questions for 15 minutes, then the leader gave the decision to each question submitted to his section. This arrangement aroused individual interest. The lunch provided by the citizens of Carthage was thoroughly appreciated, and due thanks were expressed by a motion passed.

On return to Carthage the members were entertained by Mr. Paul Blackwelder, assistant librarian of the St. Louis Public Library. His broad treatment of the subject "The child's use of library books and its influence upon his career as a college student" was helpful to the librarians. Mr. Blackwelder spoke of the sacredness and majesty of his subject, that of guiding the reading of children. He advocated having the little ones read anything they please, provided it is good. Superintendent L. J. Hall, of Joplin, started the discussion by remarking that the best use to be made of the library by children is to form the reading habit. Mr. W. K. Stone, University of Missouri, Columbia, followed Prof. Hall in the discussion.

The following resolutions were passed:

Resolved, That the members of the Missouri Library Association express to the Committee on the Missouri Library Association Handbook — Mrs. Carrie Westlake Whitney, librarian Kansas City Public Library, chairman; Miss Helen Tutt, St. Louis, and Miss Flora Roberts, Warrensburg — their thanks and appreciation for the publication of the handbook.

Resolved, By the Missouri Library Association in convention assembled at Joplin, Missouri, Nov. 8, 1906:

I. That most earnest remonstrance is made against the sections of the "Bill to amend and consolidate the acts respecting copyrights," introduced 59th Congress, 1st session, May 31, 1906, which seek to amend and curtail existing importing privileges of educational institutions, including public libraries; and that the Senators and Representatives from this state are requested to oppose such sections or provisions of the bill, as introduced, as levying a most unjust and unnecessary tax on education.

II. The secretary of this association is hereby directed to forward copies of this resolution to W. P. Cutter, secretary of the Library Copyright League, Northampton, Mass., and to each Senator and Representative in Congress from Missouri.

III. That each library representative be requested and urged to make the matter a personal one with their Congressmen.

IV. That the attention of the college presidents of Missouri be directed to this matter, that such action may be taken as may be by them deemed proper.

The association left the appointment of a

new committee on the library commission bill to the incoming president. A motion was made by Mr. Purd B. Wright, of St. Joseph, and carried, that a committee on publicity be added to other committees to be appointed by the incoming president. The incoming executive committee was given power to act in deciding the place of the next meeting and the time of meeting. The auditing committee, Mr. W. H. Kerr, Miss Parrish and Miss Martin, approved the treasurer's report.

The nominating committee, Miss K. T. Moody, St. Louis, Miss Faith E. Smith, Sedalia, and Professor Wolf, of Parkville, submitted the names for officers of the ensuing year:

President: Mr. W. L. Gifford, librarian Mercantile Library, St. Louis.

First vice-president: Mr. W. H. Kerr, librarian Westminster College, Fulton.

Second vice-president: Miss Elizabeth Wales, librarian Carthage Library.

Secretary and treasurer: Miss Flora B. Roberts, librarian Normal School, Warrensburg.

These names were confirmed by vote. Adjourned. FRANCIS A. BISHOP, *Secretary*.

NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President: Olin S. Davis, Public Library, Laconia.

Secretary: Miss Clara F. Brown, Public Library, Concord.

Treasurer: Miss Lillian E. Parshley, Public Library, Rochester.

The adjourned annual meeting of the association was held Nov. 22, at the State Library in Concord, Arthur H. Chase, state librarian, presiding in the morning in the absence of the president, M. D. Bisbee. Dr. F. L. Hills, of the city, in behalf of the Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, offered free of expense to any library desiring it, a travelling library on the prevention and treatment of the disease.

Miss Robbins, director of the library department of Simmons College, Boston, occupied most of the morning session in an informal talk on "Some library aids," which was full of practical suggestions. A few of these were: in place of the accession book, the use of shelf list and title-page on which to write accession items abbreviated, merely keeping a classed record of the number of books purchased and amount paid for same; the circulation, without cards or time limit, of inexpensive picture books among those too young to read, thus saving the wear and tear on older children's books; the use of heavy manila envelope to enclose the books in stormy weather. There was shown an inexpensive magazine cover of red rope manila folded over several outside advertising pages, secured by fasteners.

In the afternoon H. C. Morrison, state superintendent of public instruction, asked the co-operation of the library in preparing a list of the best books for reading in connection

with school work, and a committee for this purpose was chosen, with Mr. Morrison as chairman. Miss Robbins followed with a talk on the departmental work of Simmons College, dwelling especially on the library school and its six weeks' summer course for library workers. A committee was appointed, with Arthur H. Chase, of Concord, chairman, to act as a bureau of information on library matters.

The officers for the ensuing year are as follows: president, Olin S. Davis, Laconia; first vice-president, Mary B. Harris, Warner; second vice-president, Harriet Crombie, Nashua; secretary, Clara F. Brown, Concord; treasurer, Lillian E. Parshley, Rochester.

MARY W. DENNETT, *Secretary pro tem*.

NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President: William Warner Bishop, Princeton University Library, Princeton.

Secretary: Marie L. Prevost, Public Library, Elizabeth.

Treasurer: Adam J. Strohm, Free Public Library, Trenton.

The annual meeting of the association was held Oct. 17, in the Free Public Library at New Brunswick.

The statistical report showed 169 members, and there was a large attendance at the meeting.

Mr. J. C. Dana, president, called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., and after the usual preliminary minutes spoke on the library situation in New Jersey. He considered that the state was not as advanced in library matters as it should be, and suggested, as a good method of quickening public interest in the development of library work and library use, a series of meetings in north and south Jersey, under the auspices of the state association. The papers of the morning were: "The library situation in New Jersey, and how the New Jersey Library Association can help the commission in its work," by Miss Sarah B. Askew, library organizer; "The Library Summer School at Asbury Park, and its value to those who attended it," by Miss Adeline L. Jackson, of the East Orange Public Library; "A good charging system for a small library, and the advantages of a good system," by Miss Cornelia A. See, of the New Brunswick Public Library; "Printed catalog cards for the small library," by William Warner Bishop, reference librarian of Princeton University.

At the afternoon session Miss Esther E. Burdick, of the Jersey City Free Public Library, spoke on "School reference work in the Jersey City Public Library."

A discussion of the following questions, presented by Miss Elizabeth H. Wesson, librarian Orange Free Library, followed:

a. How far should a library go in its purchase of books for school work?

b. How far can a public library act as a

library for all schools and do away with small libraries owned by schools?

c. Can the public library take the place of the Sunday-school library?

d. What simple methods are in actual use in supplying books for public schools and Sunday-schools?

The officers elected for the coming year were: president, W. W. Bishop, reference librarian of Princeton University; vice-presidents, W. C. Kimball, of Passaic, and Esther E. Burdick, librarian, Jersey City; secretary, Miss Marie L. Prevost, Elizabeth; treasurer, A. J. Strohm, Trenton.

NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President: Walter L. Brown, Public Library, Buffalo.

Secretary: Miss Theresa Hitchler, Public Library, Brooklyn.

Treasurer: Edwin W. Gaillard, Public Library, New York.

The report of the committee on library institutes, made at the Twilight Park meeting, Sept. 24, 1906, has been printed in pamphlet form. It contains a detailed account of the work of the committee for the year, and the resolutions recommended by the committee and unanimously adopted by the association. These were printed in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* for October, p. 722.

OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President: Burton E. Stevenson, Public Library, Chillicothe.

Secretary: Mrs. Mary C. Parker, Public Library, Elyria.

Treasurer: Miss Grace Prince, Wittenberg College Library, Springfield.

The 12th annual meeting of the association was held Oct. 23-26, at Portsmouth.

The meeting opened with a reception in the parlors of the Hotel Washington, on Tuesday evening at 8.30 o'clock, and was attended by all of the delegates as well as a large number of the citizens of Portsmouth.

The registration showed an attendance of 87 members, the largest on record with the exception of last year at Bass Lake, near Cleveland, when the attendance of the large staff of the Cleveland Public Library and the students of Western Reserve University Library School added greatly to the usual number. Invitations had been sent to West Virginia and Kentucky librarians in response to which Mr. George D. Heaton, of Parkersburg, W. Va., and Mr. William F. Yust, of Louisville, Ky., were present.

In the absence, on account of ill health, of the president, Miss Electra C. Doren, the first vice-president, Mr. Burton E. Stevenson, presided. The first session was held on Wednesday morning, Oct. 24. After a few words of welcome by Judge A. T. Holcomb, of the local library board, and a response by Mr.

Stevenson, the following reports were read, accepted and placed on file without discussion:

Report of the secretary, Miss Light; report of the treasurer, Miss Prince; report of the library extension committee, Miss Boardman; report of the legislation committee, Mr. Wicoff; report of the auditing committee, Mr. Hopkins; report of the committee on necrology, Miss Wales.

The report of the library extension committee shows the library activities of the state to be greater than ever before. Many new buildings, Carnegie gifts and others, have been erected; old libraries have been remodelled and enlarged, opening up new departments and extending their fields of usefulness. With the co-operation of the library extension committee the committee on legislation was instrumental in bringing about the passage of the McGinnis bill, embodying two provisions which the association has sought for several years to have enacted into law.

1. The amendment empowers county commissioners to accept gifts for library purposes and enter into an agreement on behalf of the county for maintaining a county library by a special tax levy of one-half mill, and under its new clauses authorizes the trustees of any public library to enter into an agreement with such county commissioners for the use of their library as a county library. By virtue of this section it is possible for any county in Ohio to have a county library system through one or another of the means thus opened up and provided for.

2. This same law authorizes the appointment of the long-wanted library organizer, but it passed the senate too late to permit of an appropriation being secured, and therefore until the next session of the legislature the library organizer as an official will not be possible. It is possible, however, under the appropriation bills passed for the library commission, to do quite a considerable amount of work which will ultimately and appropriately fall within the sphere of the organizer.

Another law was enacted authorizing library trustees to appropriate ground for a library site, and to issue bonds for library buildings. These statutes were needed to round out the library law of the state, and their enactment has placed Ohio in the front rank, so far as legislation is concerned. In the absence of Mr. Root, chairman of the committee on inter-relation of libraries, the report was read by Mr. Hensel, a member of the committee. As a means of increasing the possibilities of inter-library loans, the committee proposed the preparation of bibliographical lists on various subjects giving representative books in the English language, with statement of the libraries in which they could be found. As a beginning, a list of all periodicals indexed in Poole, the *Reader's Guide* and *Library Index* was begun by the

committee with the purpose of having it printed in a preliminary form and sending copies to every Ohio library containing at least 5000 volumes. Each library is to indicate what sets are in that library and the degree of completeness of each set, to make possible the preparation of a union list of all periodicals in Ohio libraries that are indexed in Poole's and other similar indexes. The committee asked the approval of the association for the publication of such lists, and the solution of the problem of meeting the expenses of printing and postage on the periodical list begun. After some discussion Mr. Wicoff moved that the state library carry forward the work started by Mr. Root on the periodical list; the motion was carried. The report of the committee on library training was read by Miss Smith, the chairman. After giving an account of the profitable "Open day" at Youngstown, enjoyed by 11 neighboring libraries, and the successful institute held at Cincinnati, with an attendance of 40 persons from nine neighboring libraries and representatives from Indiana, Iowa and Kentucky, and a survey of the work done in library training classes for assistants and in the Western Reserve Library School, the following recommendations were made and after interesting discussions were voted upon and carried:

1. That the state commission distribute to all libraries of the state the report of the National Educational Association on "Instruction in library administration."

2. That the committee for the ensuing year collect a well-selected library of books, periodicals, pamphlets and library reports dealing with the problems of the small library; that this collection be duplicated and circulated from centers, the libraries chosen as centers to assume the responsibility of reaching the small libraries in their districts wishing to borrow the collection. This will serve to bring to their attention the best methods employed in modern libraries. The shortest and simplest road to successful librarianship leads through the library school, but if this privilege is denied there are other ways through which the ambitious and industrious assistant may gain much desired knowledge, thereby bettering her professional condition.

3. That a resolution from the Ohio Library Association be sent to the governing boards or officers of each library in Ohio, that the librarian be sent at library expense to the meetings of the Ohio Library Association, for these reasons: 1. The financial sacrifice to librarians personally involved by attendance on such meetings; 2. The many advantages derived from the opportunity afforded for consultation and mutual exchange of ideas and for general discussion of work, methods and aims; 3. These advantages accrue mainly, if not wholly, to the library rather than to the representative; 4. Because the librarian is stimulated to better effort and gives to the library the benefits of new knowledge, experience and inspiration.

4. That the real solution of the work of this committee lies in the appointment of an enthusiastic, energetic, tactful, attractive, trained librarian as the library organizer of the state commission. She can visit the individual libraries and make the rough places smooth.

Following the recommendation of Miss Doren, the president, a committee on publicity was appointed, with Miss Clatworthy as chairman. The duties of this committee are to select from the papers and discussions

of the annual meeting such matter as may be used in furthering the library development of the state by publication in the press, i.e., paragraphs or quotations to be duplicated and placed in the hands of librarians to be sent to their local papers. Also to aid by advice in the preparation of programs for the use of such women's clubs as may desire to include in their annual calendars the observance of a library day.

Miss Hortense Foglesong, of Marietta College Library, read a very interesting paper on "Library work viewed from the by-way." The afternoon session was devoted to the consideration of the "Value of the free library to the small town and rural communities, and state aid through library commissions." This was discussed in the form of three symposiums. The first, led by Mr. Hodges, was "The county library in Ohio: methods, results, possibilities." Miss Brotherton, librarian of the Brumback Library, of Van Wert County, which has been in operation under the first clause of the county library law since 1901, described its work and problems. This library endeavors to reach out to the very outskirts of the county and make the feeling of library ownership, with its attendant privileges, as prevalent among its farmer friends as among those who are able to visit the central library daily. The problem has been to serve 35,000 people, scattered over an area of 411 square miles, with an income varying from \$6000 to \$7000. The central library is located at Van Wert, population 8000. There is one town of 2500 in the county, all other residents live on farms or in small villages of less than 1000 residents. So the library practically serves a farming community. The following methods of county extension have been pursued: Branch libraries, corresponding to deposit stations, are located in the most central place to be obtained, usually being the country store at the cross-roads. A resident of the village or district acts as librarian. Special collections are loaned to clubs, church societies or similar organizations and to schools. Teachers, whose schools are located outside of the corporation of Van Wert, make a selection from the school collection, kept at the central library, and from the regular shelves, and the same is sent to the school house, where the teacher distributes them to the pupils. All persons in charge of these collections receive an annual fee of \$30. The next step will be the establishment of reading rooms in incorporated villages or in smaller centers where the library interest justifies the expense.

In describing the work of the Cincinnati Library, Mr. Hodges stated that by a special law for Cincinnati the privileges of the Public Library were extended to all residents of Hamilton County, soon after the passage of the law in 1898. For six years and more every corner of the county has been reached.

through six branch libraries, outside the city limits, many delivery stations and a system of travelling libraries, 20 in number, located for the most part in cross-road schools.

Miss Graham spoke of the Sidney Public Library. While this is not yet a county library, efforts are being made to that end. At present small collections of books are sent to the country schools on payment of a nominal fee. Through this medium it is hoped to arouse an interest and create a realization of the value of the public library to every community.

In Holmes County, Judge Stillwell has been very active in his efforts to establish a county library to be located at Millersburg. Miss Morse, of Youngstown, who is much interested in this work, in the absence of Judge Stillwell gave an account of their efforts.

In the second symposium, "State aid through library commissions: resources, methods, results," Mr. Yust, of Louisville, Ky., gave a very full and comprehensive account of the commission work in Georgia, Maryland, New Jersey and New York. Miss Hubbard, of Cleveland, outlined the work of the Iowa, Wisconsin, Indiana, California, Oregon and Colorado Commissions. Mr. Galbreath spoke of the work of the Ohio Library Commission, and described the aims and purposes of the League of Library Commissions.

The third symposium, led by Mr. Porter and contributed to by Mr. Wicoff and Mr. Galbreath, was "Library possibilities and needs in Ohio, based upon a review of the present law."

It may truthfully be said that library possibilities in Ohio under the present laws are practically without limit. The need now is the library organizer who will help in organizing new libraries and assist in introducing new methods into old libraries.

The Wednesday evening session opened with a short address of welcome by Mr. G. O. Newman, president of the Portsmouth Library Board. Mr. Stevenson responded, and a message of greeting from Miss Doren was read by the secretary. This was followed by a paper on the "Value of the free library to the workingman," by Rev. Mr. F. S. Arnold, of Portsmouth. Dr. W. J. Conklin, president of the Dayton Library Board, then gave an address, entitled "Flotsam and jetsam from a modern library," which closed the evening's session.

Thursday morning's session was in the hands of the Small Library Section, Miss Morse, of Youngstown, chairman; Miss Cotton, of Marietta, secretary.

Miss Clatworthy spoke "Concerning library reports," emphasizing the importance of summarizing the year's work in a narrative form in addition to statistical tables, which should be printed as appendixes. Reprints of the report of the 1906 A. L. A. Committee

on Library administration and copies of model statistical forms were distributed. Mr. Stevenson told of his "Adventures in quest of a bookbinder." Much valuable information was gleaned from the discussion which followed. The chairman spoke briefly on "What the small library can do for children," and introduced Miss Price, librarian in charge of the children's room of the Carnegie Library at Pittsburgh. Miss Price spoke of various phases of the work of the children's librarian.

The officers of this section for the ensuing year are: Miss Nana A. Newton, of Portsmouth, chairman; and Miss Nellie Pratt, of Delaware, secretary.

A special feature of the convention was the Institute so generously furnished by the Board of trustees of the Portsmouth Library. This consisted of two lectures on "Stories and story-telling" and a recital by Mrs. Gudrun Thorne-Thomsen, of Chicago University. An invitation to the Institute was extended to the Portsmouth teachers, and a good representation attended. Mrs. Thomsen's first lecture, "Poetry for children," followed the Small Library Section.

A very pleasant feature of the afternoon, provided for by the local committee, was a two hours' boat ride on the Ohio river.

The subject of the afternoon meeting was, "Value of the free library to the school." By invitation Portsmouth teachers were in attendance. Miss Hoskins, chairman of the Committee on the relation of libraries and schools, read her report. The purpose of the Committee was to get a school view of the relations, and accordingly they sent out a circular of questions to 150 superintendents of schools, and to 18 principals of normal schools and training classes. Invitations to attend the meeting at Portsmouth were also sent. The object of the questions was to ascertain just how much knowledge of children's literature was required of the teacher, and what means for furnishing such knowledge were used in normal schools or in teachers' associations, clubs, or in libraries. If any, how could they be made more helpful? and, if none, would some instruction be desired? Should there be exchange of representation at teachers' and librarians' meetings? Based upon the replies received, the committee made the following recommendations:

1. That, in place of the committee on relation of schools and libraries, there be formed a section to be called "The teachers' and children's librarians' section." This is urged in the hope and the belief that such a section would offer an opportunity to develop personal contact and joint discussion, bringing about more effective co-operation in the study of children's reading and in the co-ordination of ideals and standards in the selection of children's literature.

2. That, to make this more truly mutual in spirit and common in effort, the Ohio Library Association seek for children's librarians some recognized representation in the meetings of the Ohio Educational Association, and in the Allied Educational Association.

tions of Ohio, and more especially in county and city institutes.

In the discussion which followed the main obstacle to a section seemed to be the improbability of teachers attending in any considerable numbers, because of the many teachers' meetings throughout the year which they would consider their first duty to attend. The recommendations were finally left to the consideration of the incoming Executive Board.

Miss Straus then read a very helpful paper upon "Aids to the work of the children's librarian." Copies of a carefully prepared list of aids to the selection of children's books were distributed.

On Thursday evening an appreciative audience again greeted Mrs. Thomsen, who gave her second lecture, "Folklore and fairy tales." This was followed by a general question box, conducted by Mr. Wicoff.

Friday morning's session was in charge of the College Library and Trustees' Sections. After the transaction of the usual business (Mr. Porter, in the absence of the chairman of the former, presiding over both sections), Mr. Perrin, librarian of Case Library, Cleveland, read a scholarly paper on "Benjamin Franklin as a man of letters."

The officers of the College Section for the next year are: Miss Ella G. McSurely, of Miami University Library, Oxford, chairman; and Miss Maude Jeffrey, Ohio State University Library, Columbus, secretary.

None of the participants on the program of the Trustees' Section being present, Mr. Porter very ably led in the discussion of the following subjects: "Qualifications of a good trustee; what he should know and what he should do;" "Duty of the trustee in connection with the administration of the library: what should he know as to its inner workings?" "The full duty of the trustee: where does it begin? where does it end?" The section was reorganized, with Mr. W. T. Porter, of Cincinnati, chairman, and Mr. S. L. Wicoff, of Sidney, secretary, for the ensuing year.

Miss Clatworthy, chairman of the special committee on cataloging, then read her report, summarizing the work of the committee since its appointment in 1903. For lack of proper financial backing the committee was not able to carry on the original plan of a co-operative system of printed cards. They recommend the use of the book selection aids now issued by the A. L. A. Publishing Board, Library of Congress and League of Library Commissions, and that these various aids be made harmonious, more perfect, and constructed with special reference to their use by the popular library. Mr. Brett then presented the following resolutions, which were passed by the association:

Resolved, That the Ohio Library Association accepts and approves the report of the special committee on cataloging and heartily concurs in the opinion

expressed as to the desirability of harmonizing and perfecting these various aids to book selection and cataloging; that the association congratulates the librarians of the country upon the progress indicated by the report, and also upon the steps just taken by the A. L. A. Publishing Board, as described in a letter from a member of the board, of which a summary has just been read as a supplement to the report.

Resolved further, That the association extends its most hearty thanks to the Librarian of Congress for the great work which is being done under his direction for the benefit of American libraries; and to the Publishing Board of the American Library Association for their cordial interest in the problems of the popular libraries and for the well-considered and effective steps they are taking towards the solution of some of the most difficult ones; and that the association pledges itself to the most hearty cooperation in this work.

The final business session was called to order Friday afternoon. The following officers were elected for the coming year: president, Mr. Burton E. Stevenson, Public Library, Chillicothe; first vice-president, Mr. John J. Pugh, Public Library, Columbus; second vice-president, Miss Laura Smith, Public Library, Cincinnati; third vice-president, Dr. W. J. Conklin, Trustee Public Library, Dayton; secretary, Miss Mary Parker, Public Library, Elyria; treasurer, Miss Grace Prince, Wittenberg College Library, Springfield. Columbus was chosen as the place of meeting in 1907.

The committee on resolutions, of which Mr. Hensel was chairman, recorded the following:

That a vote of thanks be tendered to the trustees, the librarian and the library staff of Portsmouth Public Library for the many conveniences offered; for the opportunity to see the beautiful Ohio river by a boat ride, and for their generosity in affording the Association the opportunity to hear the delightful and instructive talks by Mrs. Thomsen.

That we deeply regret the enforced absence of our president, Miss Doren, to whose labors—in a great measure—the program for the present session is due; and that we hope for her speedy and complete recovery.

That we greatly appreciate the able and efficient manner in which Mr. Stevenson assumed the president's duties and conducted the various meetings.

At the request of Mr. Galbreath, state librarian, the association passed the following resolution:

Whereas, The Ohio State Library has outgrown the rooms assigned to it in the State Capitol, and its present crowded condition demands the relief that can be afforded only by more commodious and accessible quarters, and as provision for this urgent need is made in Senate Bill No. 193, which authorizes the erection of a building for the use of the State Library and the State Archaeological and Historical Society, we heartily favor this bill, or any other that will accomplish its purpose, and earnestly request its adoption at the coming session of the general assembly.

As there was no further business the association then adjourned to Assembly Hall to listen to the story-recital given by Mrs. Thomsen. The Portsmouth school children of the lower grades were invited to attend the recital, and a large gathering of them were present. This hour of story-telling and music brought the twelfth annual meeting to a close.

MATILDA M. LIGHT, *Secretary*.

Library Clubs

BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB

President: Miss M. Anna Tarbell, Free Public Library, Brimfield.

Secretary: Miss May E. Robinson, Young Men's Library Association, Palmer.

Treasurer: Miss Clara A. Fuller, Oxford.

A meeting of the club was held in the Worcester (Mass.) Public Library, Oct. 30. It was unusually well attended by librarians and trustees.

The morning session opened with a welcome by Mr. S. S. Green, librarian of the Worcester Public Library, who gave a description of the aims and methods of that library. After Mr. Green's talk all departments of the library were visited.

At the afternoon session the Rev. Reuben Kidner, of Boston, opened a discussion on "The larger use of library buildings in country towns." A discussion followed, and then a "round table" on practical questions.

CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB

President: C. B. Roden, Public Library.

Secretary: Miss E. G. Smith, John Crerar Library.

Treasurer: H. L. Leupp, University of Chicago Press.

The November meeting of the Chicago Library Club was held on the evening of the 8th at the Chicago Public Library. The president, Mr. Roden, waived all business and introduced Mr. Richard Henry Little, of the Chicago *Tribune*, who gave an interesting stereopticon lecture on "The making of a great newspaper."

Mr. Little said at the beginning of his lecture that he would not touch upon the business side, but would illustrate with lantern slides the mechanical part of the modern newspaper. One of the first pictures thrown on the screen was the library room, where there is a collection of books of reference, geography and biography, to be used "in case there is something the editors do not know." The next picture was the "graveyard," a small room, very much like a safe, where the biographies of great men, the "will-be-great" and the "would-be-great" are filed away; also items about cities are kept here. In fact any information which may be useful at some future time is put on file and can be brought out at a moment's notice. Mr. Little went on to show each department of the newspaper in a most interesting way, incidentally outlining the policy of a great newspaper.

The moving picture of the linotype machine was wonderfully interesting. The next pictures illustrated the development of the printing press, beginning with the very simply constructed hand press, printing 240 papers an hour, the drum cylinder printing 1700 an hour, and the six-feeding cylinder press, and finally the modern press printing 96,000 an hour.

This was followed by a moving picture of the printing press, showing the papers coming out folded and counted, ready for distribution. The mailing room was shown next, and a moving picture of loading the wagons as it is done at two o'clock every morning.

The lecture closed with a number of Mr. McCutcheon's cartoons — Bird Centre, Boy in Summer-Time, and the famous one on the Death of Pope Leo. Mr. Roden expressed to Mr. Little the club's appreciation of his generosity in giving them a lecture at once so interesting and instructive.

Attendance about 200.

ELLEN GARFIELD SMITH, *Secretary*.

An attractive four-page "Circular of information" has been issued by the club, and was distributed at this meeting.

FOX RIVER VALLEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

President: Miss Elizabeth Smith, Public Library, De Pere.

Secretary: Miss Blanche Thompson, Public Library, Ripon.

Treasurer: Miss Agnes J. Peterson, Public Library, Manitowoc.

The ninth annual meeting was held at Kaukauna, Wis., Nov. 20-21. Besides the papers and discussions, the reports and the question box, there were three addresses. One was on "The university extension and the library," by Frank A. Hutchins, Madison; one the president's address, by J. R. Bloom, Neenah; and one on "Business methods in a library," by H. E. Legler, secretary of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission. There were papers on "The duty of the trustee to the library," by T. B. Blair, Neenah; on "Co-operation in the Fox River Valley Library Association," by Miss C. I. Lansing, Neenah, Miss Agnes J. Peterson, Manitowoc, and Miss Deborah B. Martin, Green Bay.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: president, Miss Elizabeth Smith, De Pere; vice-president, H. J. Mulholland, Kaukauna; secretary, Miss Blanche Thompson, Ripon; treasurer, Miss Agnes J. Peterson, Manitowoc.

MOHAWK VALLEY LIBRARY CLUB

President: Miss Anna H. Perkins, Free Public Library, Ilion.

Secretary: Miss Mary France, Johnstown Library, Johnstown.

Treasurer: Miss Eugenia Stevens, Jervis Library, Rome.

The Mohawk Valley Library Club held its third annual meeting and institute at Canastota, N. Y., in Public Library Hall, Nov. 20-21. The register shows 33 persons present, representing 14 different libraries.

The program was carried out as planned, and the discussions proved practical and profitable. Considerable interest was manifested in the discussion of the different syllabuses

prepared by the Education Department of the State of New York. There are four of these syllabuses published, one for elementary schools, one for secondary schools, one for college graduates, and one for the guidance of nurse training schools. Each of these syllabuses contains a list of books recommended. Naturally, the smaller libraries will only attempt the work as planned for elementary and high schools.

An interesting paper written by Miss Katherine Malloy, of the Iliion High School, explained the use of the elementary syllabus.

The election of officers resulted as follows: president, Miss Anna H. Perkins, of Iliion; vice-president, Mrs. Norman Stafford, of Canastota; secretary, Miss Mary France, of Johnstown; treasurer, Miss Eugenia Stevens, of Rome; executive committee, A. L. Peck, of Gloversville, F. J. Proctor, of Utica.

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB

President: John J. Macfarlane, Commercial Museum, Philadelphia.

Secretary: Miss Edith Brinkmann, H. Josephine Widener Branch, Free Library of Philadelphia.

Treasurer: Miss Bertha S. Wetzell, Library Company of Philadelphia.

The season of 1906-1907 was opened on Monday evening, Nov. 12, 1906, by a meeting held at the H. Josephine Widener Branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia. Owing to the unavoidable absence of the president, Mr. Macfarlane, Mr. Thomson presided. Upon motion, the reading of the minutes of the last meeting was omitted. Mr. Thomson then introduced the speaker of the evening, Miss Louise Connolly, General Supervisor of Public Schools of Summit, New Jersey, who gave a talk on the "Relation of the public school to the library."

Miss Connolly defined the differences between the positions of the teacher in the public school and of the children's librarian, who are both engaged in the "Battle between the boy and the book." The ranks of the pupils, as in all armies, are made up of conscripts and of volunteers. The position of the teacher is more difficult because she must hold the interest of a class of children for five hours daily, with short intervals for rest and recreation, while the librarian deals with children who come to the library individually and voluntarily, for short periods and in small numbers. The full curriculum, which has been decried in favor of a more thorough training in the three R's, is of the greatest value to the teacher, as its varying character appeals to the different interests of the several children, while the teaching of a few fundamentals does not interest them. The boy who has no interest in reading is the problem of the teacher—the librarian gets the boy with a natural interest as he comes with the purpose of reading to begin with.

Miss Connolly then gave a *résumé* of the

different methods of teaching reading, illustrated by selections read from a number of readers compiled on widely varying plans. The compilers of these readers are hampered by the fact that they are compelled to limit the vocabulary of a lesson to not more than four new words, with constant repetition of those already learned. It is difficult to write good literature under such restrictions. The modern tendency, however, is in the direction of using literature in readers.

After the children have learned to read, the next step is to teach them to read for information. In the course pursued under the speaker's direction, the children of the third and fourth school-year are taught to analyze a paragraph which has been read. One set of children writes a series of questions suggested by the paragraph, which are answered by another set in writing also. Pupils of the fifth year are taught to analyze a chapter for topics, making a diagram and using brackets; those of the sixth year are taught to find a subject in a book by careful reading of the table of contents with its summaries of chapters; those of the seventh year learn how to use an index, and also to make an outline of the contents of a book. In the eighth school year the pupils are taken to the library and taught the use of the catalog and the method of finding books on the shelves. The use of cross-references and of Poole's Index may be left until the student enters the high school. This preparatory work is pre-eminently that of the teacher until its very last stages, and should not be left for the librarian to perform.

In the matter of reading for pleasure there are two classes whose demands must be met. The first consists of those whose duties in life are a pleasure to them; the second of those whose duties are drudgery. If there be a class of persons who have no duties in life, these should not read at all. Persons of the first class, such as artists, musicians, etc., read literature and poetry voluntarily and as a rest. Those of the second class, whose work is a treadmill, and who do not know what to do when the day's task is done, should be induced to read solid, good literature.

Miss Connolly advocated carefully graded lines of reading, the one realistic, the other fanciful, to be given to children during their school life, in order to lead up to reading for their own pleasure in later life. She gave a list of works in illustration. The two lines were chosen to awaken and hold the interest of all the children; for example, in the fourth year, "Alice in Wonderland" and the "Boy on a farm" are suggested; those who do not care for the imaginative story are pretty sure to like the practical one. Children should also be taught to read aloud from one to two pages at a time, while the rest of the class listens carefully, in order to be able to answer questions on what they have heard. They are fond of reiteration also, which is the foundation of a love for poetry.

In conclusion, Miss Connolly offered the suggestion that libraries have as a feature of their work readings for children, given by an assistant with a clear, plain voice, as children thoroughly enjoy having an older person read aloud to them, and it is not often possible for their teachers to do this, as they can find an occasional half hour only in the routine of regular work for such a purpose.

At the conclusion of Miss Connolly's talk Mr. Thomson thanked Miss Connolly very sincerely on behalf of the club for her bright and entertaining talk. The meeting was then adjourned. A reception and tea in the upper rooms of the library followed.

EDITH BRINKMANN, *Secretary.*

Library Schools and Training Classes

CARNEGIE LIBRARY OF PITTSBURGH TRAINING SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN'S LIBRARIANS

The training school opened for its sixth year on Oct. 8, 1906, with an enrollment of 19 students, 13 juniors and 6 special students, representing 10 states and Canada. As the members of last year's class preferred to accept positions after completing the first year's course, there is no senior class.

The students have had during the past month the pleasure of hearing the following lecturers: on Nov. 3, Miss Effie Power, instructor in library use and juvenile literature, Cleveland, Ohio; on Nov. 7, Miss Mary L. Titcomb, of the Washington Free Library, Hagerstown, Md., who gave an account of the work of the travelling book-wagon, illustrated with lantern slides; on Nov. 21 and 22, Miss Caroline Burnite, supervisor children's work, Cleveland, Ohio, whose talk on "Work with little children" was especially helpful to those interested in this work.

ENROLLMENT OF STUDENTS — JUNIOR CLASS

Lilian Isabel Baldwin, Brooklyn, N. Y. Woman's College of Baltimore, 1904-1905; New York Public Library, July-August, 1906.

Bessie Burnham, Erie, Pa. Allegheny College, 1901-1903; Woman's College of Baltimore, A.B. 1905.

Helen Georgia Elizabeth Eames, Knoxville, Pa.

Mary Alice Forbes, Hartford, Wis. Milwaukee State Normal School, 1898-1899; Wisconsin Free Library Commission Summer School, 1902; University of Wisconsin Summer School, 1903; apprentice, Public Library, Neenah, Wis., September, 1902-January, 1903; general assistant, Wisconsin Free Library Commission, September, 1903-January, 1904; children's librarian, Public Library, Racine, Wis., January-July, 1904; children's librarian, Public Library, La Crosse, Wis., January, 1905-September, 1906.

Marie Hamilton Law, Pittsburgh, Pa. Wellesley College, 1902-1903; Washington College, Washington, D. C., A.B. 1905.

Helen Margaret Middleton, Ripon, Wis. General assistant, Apprentice's Library, Philadelphia, Pa., 1905-1906.

Elizabeth Elinor Munn, Pittsburgh, Pa. Grove City College, June-August, 1904; Teachers' Normal College, 1904-1905.

Gertrude Eleanor Phipps, Dorchester, Mass. Wellesley College, A.B. 1906.

Elizabeth V. Polk, Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Vassar College, A.B. 1906; assistant, Vassar College Library, 1904-1906.

Marguerite Davis Sodon, Willoughby, O. Lake Erie College for Women, 1903-1906.

Jessie Edna Tompkins, Lansing, Mich. General assistant, Public Library, Detroit, Mich., 1904-1905; substitute, Public School Library, Lansing, Mich., 1905-1906.

Elizabeth Ward, Chicago, Ill. Assistant, Chicago Normal School Library, January-July, 1903; children's librarian, Public Library, Salt Lake City, Utah, 1904-1906.

Ruth A. Weldon, Pittsburgh, Pa.

SPECIAL STUDENTS

Augusta Anderson, Saint Paul, Neb. University of Nebraska, 1902-1905; University of Illinois Library School, A.B. in Library Science, 1906; assistant in children's department, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, August, 1906-date.

Jane Blakely, Bloomington, Ind. Indiana University, 1902-1905; University of Illinois Library School, 1905-1906; assistant in children's department, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, September, 1906-date.

Mary Margaret Douglas, Chatham, Ontario, Canada. Chatham Collegiate Institute, 1896-1901; apprentice, Free Public Library, Cedar Rapids, Ia., 1903-1904; graduate, Pratt Institute Library School, 1905; general assistant, Pratt Institute Free Library, 1905-1906; assistant in children's department, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, September, 1906-date.

Helen Lathrop, Palo Alto, Cal. Stanford University, A.B. 1902; assistant, Stanford University Library, January-May, September-November, 1902; New York State Library School, 1905-1906; assistant in Training School for Children's Librarians, September, 1906-date.

Carrie Emma Scott, Mooresville, Ind. De Pauw University, 1893-1894; Indiana State University, A.B. 1898; general assistant, Indiana State Library, June, 1903-March, 1904; New York State Library School, 1905-1906; assistant, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, July, 1906-date.

RECENT APPOINTMENTS OF STUDENTS TO POSITIONS

Alice Arabella Blanchard, appointed head of children's department, Public Library, Seat-

tle, Wash. New York State Library School, 1904-1905; Training School for Children's Librarians, 1905-1906.

Frances Eunice Bowman, appointed children's librarian, Cleveland Public Library, Cleveland, O. Training School for Children's Librarians, 1905-1906.

Beatrice Medill Kelly, appointed librarian, Public Library, Steubenville, O. Training School for Children's Librarians, 1904-1906; children's librarian, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, 1905-1906.

Mabel Ethelind Scripps, appointed children's librarian, Montague Branch, Brooklyn Public Library, Brooklyn, N. Y. Training School for Children's Librarians, 1904-1906.

Eolette Sontum, appointed librarian of the Kampen Branch of Det Deichmanske Bibliothek, Christiania, Norway. Training School for Children's Librarians, 1904-1906.

Adah Frances Whitcomb, appointed children's librarian, Public Library, Oak Park, Ill. Training School for Children's Librarians, 1905-1906.

FRANCES JENKINS OLCOTT,
Chief of Children's Department.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL

The following schedule has been arranged of lectures to be delivered during the year 1906-07 by non-resident librarians not connected with the faculty of the school:

Lecturer	Subject	No.	Date
Sarah P. Askew.....	The work of a library commission.....	3	April 23-26
J. C. Dana.....	The library and the community.....	1	
".....	The Newark (N. J.) public library.....	2	Dec. 11-13
".....	Library binding.....	1	
Marilla W. Freeman.....	Library organization.....	5	June 17-22
W. D. Johnston.....	European libraries and librarians.....	5	Feb. 1-6
William C. Lane.....	College library administration.....	2	Jan. 29-30
H. M. Lelzinger.....	Free lectures in N. Y. City.....	1	Oct. 26
Isabel Ely Lord.....	Book-buying.....	4	March 20-22
Frances J. Olcott.....	Library work with children.....	6	Jan. 21-26
W. Dana Orcutt.....	The art of printing (the Alumni lectures).....	3	May, 1907
Francis L. Rathbone.....	Administration of small public libraries.....	15	May 1-31
R. G. Thwaites.....	Local history collections in libraries.....	1	To be arranged
Frank Weitenkampf.....	Care of prints.....	1	April 4
Jessie Welles.....	Loan department in a large public library.....	3	March 4-7
".....	Apprentice classes.....	1	
H. C. Wellman.....	Book illustration.....	2	Jan. 14-15

Miss Jean Hawkins, '02, who has just been appointed to the staff of the New York State Library as sub-librarian in charge of classification, will supervise the student practice work in elementary classification. For this purpose use will be made of the current accessions to the State Library proper and to the travelling libraries department, all of which will go first to the library school students for classification. The work will then be revised in personal interviews with Miss Hawkins, whose public library experience both East and West will enable her to emphasize the different points of view, and to bring out the modifications and simpler methods desirable in public library work.

The State Library accessions fairly represent those of the average college or reference

library, and will be classified as for such a library, while the books bought by the travelling libraries department, being of exactly the sort which go into the best public libraries, will be classified with the hypothetical public library constantly in mind. The practice work of each student will be so arranged as to divide the time equally between each of these two kinds of books.

J. I. WYER, JR., Vice-director.

PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL

Since our last report two students of last year's class have been engaged by the New York Public Library as assistants, viz.: Miss Katharine Grasty and Miss Nathalie Maurice. Miss Helen Forbes, of the class of 1904, is working at the Chatham Square branch, and Miss Dalphin, of the same class, leaves the Mt. Vernon (N. Y.) Library also for the New York Public Library. Miss Julia Heath, of 1906, has gone to the Hampton Institute Library for the winter.

The list of lecturers for the second term, so far as engaged, is as follows: Jan. 4, Mrs. S. C. Fairchild on "The presidents of the American Library Association;" Jan. 11, Dr. J. H. Canfield on "The public library from the point of view of the educator;" Jan. 16, 17, and 18, Miss L. E. Stearns on "Some western phases of library work," "The library spirit," and "The child and his book;" Jan. 25, Mr. J. C.

Dana on "Printing;" Feb. 1, Mrs. F. C. Bursch on "The making of a book;" Feb. 8, Miss F. L. Rathbone on "Library accounts;" Feb. 21, Miss Sarah B. Askew on "The work of the organizer;" Mar. 1 and 8, Miss Annie C. Moore on "Library work with children."

The course in book selection, as at present outlined, will consist of five lectures on "Trade bibliography," four on "Standard editions," one on "Publishers," three preliminary lectures on "The principles of book selection," and seven seminars, each with a brief introductory talk by the instructor.

The lessons in accession work, shelf-listing and statistics during the coming term will be given by Miss Emily Turner, the secretary of the school.

The class attended the meeting of the Li-

brary Chapter of the Neighborhood Association on the evening of Nov. 24 and listened to an address by Miss Keyser, secretary of the Church Association for the Advancement of the Interests of Labor. Several members of the class have become visitors of the home libraries conducted by the chapter, while five others are giving their services to the little library of Willow Place Chapel, finishing the cataloging of the books and going at certain hours to give them out to the children who use the library.

The school had the pleasure of a visit on Nov. 22 from Miss Anne Wallace, of the Southern Library School, who spoke to the class on the "Library movement in Georgia."

As usual the class has been divided into sections for an evening visit to the departments of the Institute on those evenings when classes are in session. They are conducted by the registrar, who explains the workings of the different departments, making the visit much more profitable than the ordinary sight-seeing trip through the buildings.

MARY W. PLUMMER, *Director*.

SIMMONS COLLEGE LIBRARY SCHOOL

The library school of Simmons College opened Sept. 21, with a registration of 14 seniors, 23 juniors, 24 sophomores and 35 freshmen. Nine college graduates are taking the one-year course, while six special students are doing part of the work.

The following supplementary lectures have already been given: "Publications of the A. L. A. Publishing Board," by Miss N. E. Browne, of the Board; "Book mending," by Miss Rose Murray, of the Springfield Public Library; "A specialized library," by Mr. G. W. Lee, of the Stone and Webster Library; "Library housekeeping," by Dr. G. E. Wire, of the Worcester County Law Library; "Book-selling from the dealer's point of view," by Mr. W. B. Clarke; "Library administration," by Miss Louisa M. Hooper, of the Brookline Public Library. Two lectures have also been given on the "Bibliography of German literature," by Fräulein Mitzlaff, one of the instructors in the college.

On Oct. 20 the senior class and the college graduates visited the Worcester County Law Library, the Worcester Public Library and the libraries of the American Antiquarian Society and Clark University. Thanks to the courteous welcome extended by the various officials, a very profitable and enjoyable visit resulted.

The corporation has just adopted a new measure of great interest. Hereafter degrees may be granted to the college graduates who have taken the one-year course, upon the completion of six months' approved work in a library and the presentation of a thesis on a technical subject. These requirements are necessary because the same amount of library economy, practice work and reference

work cannot be obtained in the one year as in the regular four-year course. The degrees will be given only at the regular June commencement.

ALICE AMELIA WOOD,

Simmons, 1907.

WESTERN RESERVE LIBRARY SCHOOL

In addition to the half day's work each week in the Cleveland libraries, the class is doing practical work in ordering, receiving and making the records for 1500 books which are being prepared for the prospective East branch of the Public Library.

On Nov. 17 the classes of '05 and '06 gave a book party, a "Social circulating library," to the class of '07 and the faculty at the school. The animated books "were received, accessioned, plated and collated" in a most satisfactory manner, if with startling variations from library school rules.

The majority of the students are spending one evening a week together as an Italian club, with Mr. Williams as leader.

W. H. BRETT, *Dean*.

WISCONSIN LIBRARY SCHOOL NOTES

During November, besides the lectures of the regular curriculum, the school had the pleasure of hearing Dr. Reuben G. Thwaites, who spoke on "How history is written" and "Local history collections." Parliamentary drill has been introduced as a regular course, under the direction of Mr. Legler. Current events are a daily feature, two students being appointed each week to post the leading events for the day as clipped from the newspapers, the same students summing up the news in a weekly seminary. Bulletins on the Panama Canal, Farthest North, the Jamestown Exposition, Ireland, Japan, Autumn and Hallowe'en have been made and exhibited as part of the required course in picture bulletins.

The study of publishing houses was completed by an exhibition, held in the school room, of the representative works of the houses studied, each student finding material for her own exhibit from the books in the libraries of Madison. Many new books used for examination in preparing the *A. L. A. Booklist* were loaned for the occasion, through the courtesy of the editor. The exhibition, though a review, was in the nature of a reception to the friends of the school, and proved most interesting and attractive to the many visitors. The course on publishers is followed by one on periodicals, conducted by the seminary method.

The class has completed its organization and elected officers as follows: president, Helen D. Gorton; vice-president, Harriet W. Sewall; secretary, Ada J. McCarthy; treasurer, Harriet L. Allen.

The school was given a Thanksgiving recess from Wednesday noon until Monday noon.

MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE, *Preceptor*.

Reviews

BROWN, James Duff. Subject classification, with tables, indexes, etc., for the subdivision of subjects. London, The Library Supply Co., 1906. 423 p. 8°.

A new scheme of classification, complete and furnished with an adequate index, cannot fail to attract instant attention from librarians everywhere. This country at present knows in actual practice but two schemes that have drawn numerous followers to themselves, and of these Mr. Cutter's Expansive classification is badly handicapped by its incomplete state and its want of a general index to the whole of the seventh expansion. It is not unfair to say that the Decimal classification owes its general popularity far more to the extremely practical consideration that it can be easily taught and easily applied than to its intrinsic merits. Its mnemonic features and its admirable index, joined to its flexible notation, have given the Decimal classification its present position of eminence. In fact many a librarian who thoroughly condemns not a few of its schedules has adopted this classification for his library because of its practical value. It is indexed, and it can be learned; therefore it is the cheapest scheme to adopt, no matter how much it offends one's sense of the fitness of things. There are far better classifications in print, but they lack these all-important essentials, flexibility and ease of application.

These facts have evidently impressed themselves on Mr. Brown in issuing his volume on "Subject classification." The work is an elaboration of his previously published "Adjustable classification." He has made a classification with a reasonably flexible notation; one which can be applied without too great strain on the memory, and which should prove fairly expansive in practice. In short, he has made a bid for the sort of support that the Decimal classification now receives, and as his scheme is made with British interests in mind, it is probable that he will win many adherents in Great Britain and perhaps elsewhere. So far as its merits as a classification are concerned, it can hardly be said to be the equal of the Expansive classification, although it avoids the deadlier pitfalls of the Decimal classification, while as a scientific product it falls far short of several of the other well-known schemes.

Leaving for the moment the matter of the classification *per se*, let us glance at Mr. Brown's notation. Following the natural bent of every one who has failed to reconcile himself to Mr. Dewey's division of the field of knowledge into ten parts on the analogy of the metric system, he employs the letters of the alphabet for his main series, following these with as many Arabic numerals as he wishes, though three is the ordinary number.

These are to be read "decimally" in the familiar fashion whereby A51835 comes before A52. It is a pity that the natural perversity of the school-trained mind tends to read numbers arithmetically; but all makers of notations ignore that small fact. Mr. Brown does not make use of the decimal point and added digits to break up large topics or insert additional heads. Instead he employs the decimal point and figures after it only for subdivisions of topics by the use of certain "Categorical tables." These are decidedly extensive, running from .00 to .975, and are constant, *i.e.*, always the same in signification, no matter what the class number preceding them. Thus .1 after any number means Bibliography, .65 equals Education, of the topic indicated by the first number. For example, D300.65 signifies the subhead Education under the main topic Geology. There is a special index to these "Categorical tables" which greatly enhances their value. Thus in Mr. Brown's scheme anything coming after a decimal point means a subdivision of the topic indicated by the number before the decimal point. As he has not limited himself to the ordinary subdivisions of main topics, such as the familiar .01 to .09 of the D. C., but has practically repeated the most important heads in the classification itself, it will be seen that Mr. Brown has thus most ingeniously made it possible to subdivide at either place almost any topic permitting double treatment. For instance, to use our former illustration, D300 means Geology, and may be subdivided *ad infinitum*; but any region or country may have the decimal fraction .317 after it to provide a place for works on the geology of the region. Further, .789 signifies Local Administration, and may be added to all sorts of numbers indicating laws, policies, and governmental machinery; .871 Consonants may be applied after all language or dialect numbers, and so on.

Instead of using a numerical "local list" or special table of places, the author uses the country number of the main classification directly after the topic number. Thus I760 = Boot and Shoe-Making; I760W216 = Boot and Shoe-Making in Boston, Mass.; I760W-216.10 signifies History of Boot and Shoe-Making in Boston. There are also given numerous ways, mostly familiar, of recording author numbers, dates, etc. A book on the Boston shoe trade's history by Douglas and published in 1905 would have the following class mark, following Mr. Brown's notation

I760W216.10

out to its fullest extent:

3926rn

Close classification with this notation will result in long and intricate numbers; but exactly that result will probably be found under any system. It may be questioned whether Mr. Brown has gained so much as

he has lost by confining the use of the decimal point and added digits to the "Categorical tables." In a library of moderate size where close classification is not demanded, the gain will be considerable. In a large library the necessity for intercalating long numbers to be read "decimally" and for the very frequent use of the long "national number" will prove a decided drawback. (But after all the length of the class number for libraries of any size is a bogey pure and simple. It does not seem to hinder the efficient use of continental libraries where most antiquated and intricate systems of fixed location are employed.) A system of notation which will permit the librarian of a small library to use few figures, and his colleague in a large library to use as many as he wishes is the desideratum. Mr. Brown has furnished just such a notation. For the users of an open-access small library it is decidedly less intelligible than the ordinary three figure D. C. number, which is seldom very intelligible to them at best. Finally it seems an open question whether any combination of figures and letters that have to be read decimally and alphabetically equals a straight decimal notation. It is wiser to use a four figure system, if the three figure one proves too limited, rather than a combination of letters and figures. The users of a library can understand numbers as the equivalent of subjects, and decimal fractions as denoting subdivisions of those subjects, but it is very doubtful whether they can go beyond that.

The system of arrangement of subjects which underlies the order of the classification is as follows:

A—Generalia.	
B, C, D—Physical Science.	} Matter and Force.
E, F—Biological Science.	
G, H—Ethnology and Medicine.	} Life.
I—Economic Biology.	
J, K—Philosophy and Religion.	} Mind.
L—Social and Political Science	
M—Language and Literature.	} Record.
N—Literary Forms.	
O, W—History, Geography.	
X—Biography.	

Mr. Brown believes that this order is "logical." That there is at least the appearance of orderly sequence in this grouping of the main divisions of knowledge may be admitted without committing ourselves to the fundamental proposition that a classification must be wholly "logical," or to an acceptance of this arrangement as truly a proper sequence of grouping for either books or ideas. The author has adopted another principle that he applies rigidly, if not altogether sensibly. This is that there shall be no separation between a science and its application in the arts or trades. "The old

distinction between theoretical and applied science," he says, "is gradually disappearing from all modern text-books, and it is obvious that, as the systematization of science and its teaching improve the separation between the physical basis and the practical application, hitherto maintained, will no longer be insisted on. In this scheme of "Subject classification" every class is arranged in a systematic order of scientific progression, as far as it seemed possible to maintain it; while applications directly derived from a science or other theoretical base have been placed with that science or base." Now this sounds very well, and there is in this idea the germ of a large and most important truth, one which we have only dimly begun to perceive in its relations to classification in general; but how does it work out in Mr. Brown's tables? A glance at the schedules under B-C-D shows. There we find Dynamics closely followed by Mechanical Engineering, Machinery, Engineers, Civil Engineering, Sanitary and Municipal Engineering (including Sewage, Street cleaning, Public works), Architecture (including Building Materials and the whole history of architecture), Railway Engineering, Vehicular Engineering, Transport and Communication, Shipbuilding, Seamanship and Navigation, Naval and Military Science, before we come to Electricity and Magnetism (including, of course, Electrical Engineering), Optics, Heat (including Steam engines, etc.), Acoustics, and then the whole literature of Music (most admirably worked out) before we have Astronomy and Physiography. Under the last head we have Hydrostatics and Hydraulic Engineering as well as Meteorology and Storms, including Pneumatic Engines and Blowing Machinery, and so on. Now this is all "logical" enough, but what of the effect on the physicist who must wander from pillar to post, passing by the hosts of scores of operas and symphonies, the long reports and papers of observatories, to get from his books on Heat to those on Hydrostatics or the Atmosphere? This same sort of thing is found throughout the classification, and the idea, which is a good one if not overworked, has been so developed as to render the classification impractical for libraries in which the books are grouped with some regard to the convenience and needs of readers. Any sort of a classification, preferably one by height of the volumes to save much needed space, will serve a library where readers merely hand in call-slips with the proper number written down. If we do not classify for the readers, why classify at all? And if we classify for persons interested in subjects, why separate allied topics generally of interest to the same group of persons by such wide digressions and intrusions as those we have noted? To be sure a theoretically useful place is thereby found for some of the professions and industrial arts—most of which Mr. Brown has placed under Economic Biology—but why place

both Architecture and Military Science as applications or developments of Dynamics, and Music with all its history and literature as a mere appanage of Acoustics? So to do is to ignore utterly the history of those arts and their place in human development. Painting and Sculpture, by the way, have to go in Generalia. Why not on this principle after Pigments or Perspective in the case of Painting, and after Economic Geology in the case of Sculpture?

Logic and Mathematics are also grouped in Generalia, on the ground, presumably, that they are "rules, methods and factors of general application." The handling of Mathematics takes very little account of the developments of the last twenty years in that science, and most of the modern topics of absorbing interest to mathematicians seem to find no place. In Generalia also are Education, General Science, Scientific Expeditions and Surveys.

There is one departure from ordinary manuals of classification that is distinctly novel, and which will, it is to be feared, militate against the adoption of the whole of this scheme by libraries in which the various important literatures of the world find a prominent place. The class M, Languages and Literary History, has been well worked out. But works of so-called pure literature are apparently intended to be thrown into N, Literary Forms and Texts. This class is divided into four main groups, Fiction, Poetry, Drama, Essays and Miscellanea. Under each the individual authors of all languages are to be "arranged alphabetically under real names. . . . Original texts with translations. . . ." Here we have the sort of thing which makes the adoption of the D. C. so difficult in university and large reference libraries. Mr. Dewey separates "Philology" from Literary History and Criticism and from Literature. But his classification at least allows the grouping by itself of, say, Greek Literature. Mr. Brown has joined his Philology and Literary History and has placed them next to the works of the various authors in the several languages, which is a gain over the D. C. But he groups all these various literatures under form. Doubtless this is done for the sake of such public libraries as contain mostly English books, though there may be some cosmopolitan view of "world literature" at the basis of the arrangement. Both classifications ignore the fact that scholars want to find together the works on a language, its literary history and its literary masterpieces. If a library is overwhelmingly English, then Mr. Brown's scheme is justifiable, though hardly commendable. It would have been equally well to have made one alphabet of his individual authors, and indeed better, for thus the poetical and prose works of a given author are not separated. Mr. Brown has, to be sure, provided a place in his first division, A, Generalia, to meet this difficulty. "A300 is a place for uniformly

edited and bound editions of the collected works of authors like Goethe, Scott, Carlyle, De Quincey, Hugo, Voltaire and other miscellaneous writers, whose works it may be undesirable to distribute." Every one who has tried to classify these or other "miscellaneous" writers on the basis of form will understand why this place in Generalia is provided. But a more excellent way is to abandon the form classification, save for collections. There is supposed to be adequate reason in public libraries for shelving all fiction by itself. Why not all English literature? And why separate works on the history of French Literature from that literature?

We cannot take time to examine in detail the remaining portions of this classification. The working out of the various topics is in the main excellent and worthy of praise. The peculiarly British portions will be of great convenience to all classifiers for reference. The chief faults of the scheme are in its grouping of large divisions. The index is adequate, and by all odds the most valuable feature of the work. The introduction is full, giving much information about applying the classification, and many variant forms for indicating authors, dates, etc. It is to be regretted that this introduction is rather difficult reading even for one somewhat well versed in the technical jargon of libraries. Everybody knows that the most marked divergences between British and American usage have occurred in the technical phraseology of crafts and occupations that have developed since the eighteenth century. The introduction to this book and many phrases in its schedules give point to this well-known fact in linguistic history. The book will be a welcome addition to the literature of classification, but it will scarcely prove a dangerous rival, in this country at least, to well-established systems. It is to be regretted that it will not. There is need for a popular, clear, modern, scientific classification, one made on the basis of books and modern science, as opposed to theory and former conditions.

This review must not close without mention of a remarkably detailed scheme of classification of "Library economy" which is contributed by L. S. Jast, of the Croydon Public Libraries. Librarians' offices, like the proverbial shoemakers' children, have not infrequently been suffered to remain in gross neglect of numbering and order. This scheme of Mr. Jast's will enable anything pertaining to a library, from furniture to labels and from trustees to accession books, to be properly ticketed. The classification appears rather a *tour de force* than the result of practical use, but it has very great possibilities of good service and is to be heartily commended to the attention of librarians.

WILLIAM WARNER BISHOP.
Princeton University.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY. Library building plans; collected by William R. Eastman. (Bulletin 107: Library School 22.) Albany, New York State Education Department, 1906. p. 83-137.

A valuable supplement to the A. L. A. tract "Library rooms and buildings." "It includes plans of 22 actual buildings whose cost is known and which can be visited."

Mr. Eastman's long study of the subject, and the experience he has had in teaching it, are here made available for general use, in the admirable selection of plans and the careful descriptions. In each case the exterior is given, as well as floor plans.

SCHWENKE, P. and HORTZSCHANSKY, A., ed. Berliner bibliothekenführer. Berlin, Weidmannsche Buchhandlung, 1906. 4+163 p. 12°.

The editor of the *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* and his collaborator have shown the usual German thoroughness in the preparation of this detailed guide to the libraries of Berlin, covering the libraries of high schools, learned societies, secondary schools, churches, corporations and associations, private, parliamentary and general public libraries. They furnish also a brief chapter on the Union catalog of Prussian reference libraries and the Bureau of Information through which one can find out in what libraries a given book may be found.

Under each library particulars are given as to the building, collection and administration, and under the royal library the classification is supplied. At the end of each description references are mentioned to other sources of information, making, when taken together, a very complete bibliography of Berlin libraries. The book has two indexes, one to the libraries by title and one to the chief subjects represented in their collections, and will be most useful for reference in this country as well as in Germany. M. W. P.

Library Economy and History

GENERAL

The May-June issue of *La Bibliofilia* has an interesting article by Leonardo Olschki, son of the editor, on Lorenzo Da Ponte, bookseller and booklover, which is of interest to American and New York libraries, because of Da Ponte's early attempts at introducing Italian literature into this country. After an attempt, about 1801, to start an Italian bookshop in London, he came to New York for the same purpose, but neither the political nor the commercial atmosphere at the time was favorable to his attempt, and he was forced to return to Italy. When he came over he brought 140 volumes of Italian literature. When he left he gave 80 to friends in the

city and 60 he gave to a library which Mr. Olschki identifies as "probably the present New York Public Library," but which was what is now known as the Society Library. Da Ponte goes on to say that this library had a good store of Greek and Latin authors, but up to that time had never housed their Italian successors. As an evidence of his good will he also deposited 14 volumes printed by Bodoni, the works of Parini, of Massa, of Cesarotti, of Foscolo, of Monti, of Pendimonte, as well as a life of Bodoni.

The *Bulletin of Bibliography* for October contains "Index to library reference lists, Jan. to Oct., 1906 cumulation," by Elizabeth Cranston. Hereafter the list will be published monthly in the *A. L. A. Booklist* and cumulated quarterly in the *Bulletin of Bibliography*.

Foss, Sam Walter. The song of the library staff. New York, John R. Anderson, 1906. 14 p. D.

Mr. Foss's admirable library poem, read at the Narragansett Pier conference, is reprinted, with most amusing illustrations by Merle Johnson.

HAMMOND, Otis G. Genealogy in the library. Manchester, N. H., John B. Clarke Co., 1906. 18 p. 12°.

A paper read before the New Hampshire Library Association, December, 1905. The account of work in a subject usually regarded as dry is made very entertaining by the anecdotes Mr. Hamond tells.

The *Library Association Record* for October contains the full text of Sir William H. Bailey's "Presidential address" at the Bradford meeting of the L. A. U. K., and gives a portrait of Sir William as a frontispiece. The Proceedings of the meeting are given, and the Report of the Council. An account of the meeting was printed in the October *LIBRARY JOURNAL* (31:720-22.)

The *Library World and Book Selector* for November contains an interesting article by James Duff Brown on "The limitation of newspapers in public libraries."

Public Libraries for December contains "The library school problem," by Irene Warren; "The library in its relation to the elementary schools," by E. L. Power; "The essentials of a good book for children," by Elizabeth L. Morrissey; "The bull in the (library) china shop," by W. I. Fletcher; "Simple library simplification," by E. W. Gaillard, and a number of brief articles.

The *Wisconsin Library Bulletin* for September-October contains "What you can get out of a Henty book," by Miss C. M. Hewins, and "Library work in our normal schools," by Miss G. E. Salisbury, Whitewater, Wis.

WOODRUFF, Clinton Rogers. Rebuilding of Philadelphia: work of civic improvement

progressing quietly but steadily. (*In Craftsman*, 1906. 11:187-201.)

In this article illustrations are given of six of the Carnegie branch libraries which are being erected in that city. The outside views of some of these buildings are exceedingly attractive.

The *Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* for November opens with an article by H. Schnorr v. Carolsfeld, "Zum bibliotheksbetrieb," and contains also the first part of a "Verzeichnis der griechischen handschriften der Bibliotheca Rossiana," by C. Van der Vorst. There is also a full and valuable review by Johannes Luther of William Warner Bishop's "German reformation pamphlets in the Princeton University Library," printed in the *Princeton University Bulletin* in 1904 and published in Germany by Harrassowitz.

LOCAL

Alliance (O.) P. L. (3d rpt. — year ending Sept. 30, 1906.) Added 633; total 5299. Issued, home use 33,050. New cards issued 1076. Visitors to reading rooms 12,936; to reference room 3866.

Belfast (Me.) F. L. The *Bangor Commercial* for Nov. 3 contains a history of the library, with a cut showing the building and another showing the Albert Boyd Otis memorial book-plate.

Bemidji, Minn. The Crookston Lumber Company has rented the first floor of the Masonic Block, and will use it as a library and club room for their men employees.

Bristol (Ct.) P. L. The cornerstone of the new building was laid Oct. 27. A copper box with local papers, library material, etc., was sunk in it.

Brockton (Mass.) P. L. The first of the reading circles for blind persons was held on Oct. 17 in the library. These readings have been arranged by the library trustees and the Woman's Club. There are about 40 blind persons in the city.

Brooklyn, Ct. A meeting in the interest of public libraries was held in the Town Hall Oct. 10, opening at 10 a.m. and continuing until 4 p.m.

Charles D. Hine presided and gave interesting accounts of the work done by the State Library Committee, of which he is chairman. Reports were presented from the libraries in Brooklyn, Killingly, Chaplin, Thompson and Putnam.

Miss Ellen D. Larned gave an interesting account of the formation of a public library by five towns in Windham county in 1739. Mrs. Belle H. Johnson read a paper on "The possibilities of a small library," and Jonathan Trumbull spoke on "The library as an educational institution." President Luther, of Trinity College, spoke on "The country library."

Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L. The East branch was opened formally on Nov. 10. It is estimated that 2000 people crowded into the building. David A. Boody, on behalf of the board of trustees, presented the building to the city, and it was accepted by Commissioner of Charities Robert W. Heberd, delegated by Mayor McClellan, who turned it over to the trustees of the Brooklyn Public Library. It was accepted on their behalf by Frank L. Babbott. An address was made by Lyman A. Best, principal of Public School no. 108, and the Rev. Warren H. Wilson also spoke.

Cleveland (O.) P. L. (37th rpt., 1905.) Added 31,349; total 267,487. Issued, home use 1,371,670 (fict. 57.2 per cent.); visitors to reading rooms 887,563. New cards issued 22,602; total cards in force 82,328. Expenses \$311,114.29 (maintenance \$46,444.16; service \$60,257.70; growth, including \$76,807.89 for Carnegie building, \$170,704.49; bonded indebtedness \$33,707.95.)

Mr. Brett's report sets forth again the pressing need for the new building, summarizes the work for the year, and states the place of the library. The St. Clair branch was opened April 14, as noted in these columns. A sub-branch at Lorain street and Clark avenue was opened April 4.

Then follows the detail report of Miss Eastman, vice-librarian, including summaries or extracts from the reports of the heads of departments. The number of readers and reference workers has increased 15 per cent. over 1904, the issue of books for home use 14 per cent., the total number of users 12.8 per cent.

The issue of books to children passed the half million mark. "The story-hour has had much to do with the standard of reading we have been able to maintain, and in drawing new people to the library." The great demand for Christmas poetry, and the difficulty of finding good selections, led to the compiling and printing of the first number of *The Children's Leaf*. Seven thousand copies were given to children. It is planned to publish the leaflet four or five times a year.

There are some interesting deductions as to work with children in certain communities, as seen in some of the branches. "The probable proportion of juvenile work. In new city neighborhoods with a large foreign population, the juvenile circulation is at first about three-fourths of the total circulation. The proportion of juvenile to adult use of the library of a community indicates strongly the education and intelligence of the adult population. The high rate of juvenile use in a foreign district is one of the most hopeful signs of the possibility of the assimilation of the foreigner, for it shows how quickly the foreign child responds to the influences of our national life and our schools; indeed, the imagination of the foreign child, which is

enriched through his national folk-lore and legend, enables him to project himself to a surprising degree into our life, its customs and its history. In the St. Clair branch, which has been open about nine months, the juvenile circulation was at first three-fourths and it has remained about one-half of the total. There is every indication that Broadway will pass through a similar experience. The increase at St. Clair in the percentage of adult circulation has not shown a corresponding decrease in the juvenile circulation.

A supervisor of home libraries was appointed in September. There are twenty of these, dealing in all with 242 children.

In making his plea for a new building Mr. Brett says:

"The colleges, universities and technical schools of our country are largely supported by endowments, gifts of those interested in education. The library may very reasonably make the same appeal to those who wish to aid higher studies, research and technical education. Within the last two decades many generous gifts have been made for library purposes, millions of dollars each year, as reported to the American Library Association. These have been largely for buildings; during the last two years, however, there has been a notable increase in the amount given for the purchase of books either directly or as an endowment. This is a hopeful indication, and suggests the greatest need of our own library.

"If an endowment could be secured which would furnish annually a reasonable amount for the purchase of books, it would provide for satisfactory growth and increased usefulness. This might be in one fund or in special funds devoted to specific subjects, as sociology, technical subjects, or the fine arts. With the completion of an adequate and secure building the library may also hope for valuable additions by the gift of collections; there are in Cleveland a considerable number of valuable collections, and the natural destination of these is the library rather than the auction-room."

Detroit (Mich.) P. L. The formal opening of the new branch library building, at Field and Agnes avenues, took place Nov. 22, under the direction of the Detroit library commissioners. The opening remarks were made by George Osius, president of the library commission. Addresses were made also by William E. Henze, Henry M. Utley, librarian, and John Harpfer, acting mayor.

The library has been opened since last June. It is the first branch library to have its own building.

East Orange (N. J.) F. P. L. (3d rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, 1905.) Added 2879; total 17,953. Issued, home use 117,294. New registration 1517; total registration 8744. Receipts \$7788.39; expenses \$7548.44 (salaries \$3485.66, books \$1552.47, light \$248.87).

A brief report of excellent work. The new

activities for the year include the establishment of the "vacation privilege" of six books at a time from any stated period in the summer up to Oct. 1, the opening of a men's reading room, the placing of a bulletin board in the railway station, and an exhibit of books suitable for Christmas gifts.

Englewood (N. J.) F. P. L. The new wing 22 x 27, added to the library for a children's room, is now open. It is the gift of Mayor Mackay.

Evanston (Ill.) F. P. L. (33d rpt.—year ending May 31, 1906.) Added 2500; total 38,811. Issued, home use 113,715, and through schools 2662. New registration 2681; cards in force 5662. Receipts \$20,716.81; expenses \$10,831.81 (salaries \$4656.62, books \$3692.56, rebinding \$447.40, heat and light \$621.14).

The frontispiece shows a sketch of the new building, toward the cost of which one-fourth of the library income must be reserved.

The report of the president of the board of directors contains a brief history of the library.

Fall River (Mass.) P. L. (46th rpt.—year ending Feb. 28, 1906.) Added 1719; total 70,391. Issued, home use 204,127. New registration 1110; total registration 17,539. Receipts \$23,402.90; expenses \$23,402.90 (salaries \$7373.67, books, periodicals and newspapers, \$3589.93, binding \$880.15, light and fuel \$3323.90, work on new card catalog \$1736.08).

Six sections of stack and 424 steel shelves have been added to the stack room.

The need for more money is forcibly stated by the trustees.

Frankfort, Ind. Carnegie L. The cornerstone of the building to be built with the \$22,500 given by Mr. Carnegie was laid on Nov. 28. The ceremonies were in charge of the Grand Lodge of Masons of Indiana. The address was made by Professor Robert J. Ale, of the State University.

Georgia School of Technology, Atlanta. The cornerstone of the library to be built with the \$20,000 given by Mr. Carnegie was laid on Nov. 21, with appropriate exercises. The speakers were Chancellor Barrow and Governor Terrell. There were a thousand people present, among whom were the members of the Southern Library School.

Hartford, Ct. State L. A plan has been selected for the new Connecticut State Library and Supreme Court Building, which is to stand facing the capitol at the corner of Capitol avenue and Washington street, Hartford. The length of the building is to be 350 feet, 65 feet longer than the capitol. The library will have the first floor, and a stack extending two stories.

Helena (Mont.) P. L. (20th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, 1905.) Added 1955; total 37,255. Issued, home use 78,608. New registration 830; total registration 6695. Re-

ceipts \$8839.74; expenses \$8382.43 (salaries \$3810, books, binding and periodicals \$2792.68, heating, lighting, etc., \$779.64).

The trustees point out the necessity for more room, and suggest an addition to the present building.

The report is Bulletin 30, and includes a classed list of new books (selected).

Hoosick Falls (N. Y.) P. L. In compliance with the law relating to the establishment of a free public library, the Board of Education has taken definite action regarding the transfer of the school library to a free library, located in the new public building, and has delegated the necessary powers to act as custodians. The room assigned for library purposes is capacious and pleasant. Prof. M. J. Dillon has been chosen, for the position of librarian, his salary and term of office to be fixed later.

Houston, (Tex.) Carnegie L. (Rpt.—year ending April 30, 1906; in local press.) Added 2378; total 17,228. Issued, home use 59,008. New registration 2006; total registration 5092. Receipts \$5749.20; expenses \$5595.59 (salaries \$2363.20, books \$1173.76, binding \$243.77, electric light \$224.13).

The increase of circulation for this second year of the library averages over 600 volumes a month. The fiction percentage was 85 per cent.

A Saturday morning story hour has been held in the children's room, with an attendance ranging from 50 to 250.

Howell (Mich.) Carnegie L. The \$18,000 building, toward which Mr. Carnegie gave \$15,000, was opened on Nov. 26. The site is the gift of McPherson Bros., of Howell.

Joliet (Ill.) P. L. (31st rpt.—year ending May 31, 1906; in local press.) Added 2469; total 25,772. Issued, home use 130,973. New registration 1164; total registration 8588.

"The new plan of issuing a non-fiction card to each patron of the library has met with great favor, and many have availed themselves of the privilege."

Kearny (N. J.) Carnegie L. The cornerstone of the Carnegie building was laid on Oct. 27, with the usual exercises. The main address was by John Cotton Dana, of the Newark Free Public Library. Mr. Carnegie's gift was \$27,000.

Kilbourne, Ill. Sixty citizens have organized the Kilbourne Independent Library Association, and will open a public reading room.

Lansing (Mich.) P. S. L. (mss. rpt.—year ending August 30, 1906.) Added 2112; total 15,399 (fict. 17.5 per cent.) Issued, home use, through two branches 1827. Books used for study 33,550. New registration 1154; cards in force 7036. Expenses \$4578.95; receipts \$4468.60. Amount spent per capita (29,000 population) .15½.

Two new branches are asked for. A number of the pastors of the city

churches spoke of the needs of the library on a recent Sunday, supporting its request for larger appropriations.

Lawrence University L., Appleton, Wis. The new Carnegie building was dedicated on the afternoon of Oct. 19. The building is a simple and very attractive one. It cost \$50,000. There were addresses by President A. W. Harris, of Northwestern University, President Charles R. Van Hise, of the University of Wisconsin, and others.

Marietta College, Marietta, O. The new Carnegie library building was dedicated on Oct. 17. It cost \$40,000.

Marinette, Wis. Stephenson P. L. (Rpt.—year ending June 30, 1906.) Added 1033; total 11,533. Issued, home use 46,949; reading room attendance 26,987. New cards issued 1071; cards in force 4237. Receipts \$4283.82; expenses \$4197.48 (salaries \$1483, books \$1124.80, periodicals \$163.58, binding \$161.20, light \$223.60, heat \$251.25).

"The library has not been able to purchase as many books of fiction as the Bodley Club has furnished for the last two years.

"Any rapid increase in circulation dependent upon light fiction can hardly be looked upon as a healthy growth, so even though the circulation shows a decrease we are satisfied that the change is for the best."

The library now has the use of two traveling libraries from the Wisconsin Free Library Commission—one of German books and one Norwegian library added this year.

Marysville (Cal.) City L. The library was formally reopened Oct. 12, in its new building, the gift of John Q. Packard, of Marysville. There were no formal exercises, but 1500 persons visited the library.

Mills College, Oakland, Cal. The Margaret Carnegie Library of Mills College was dedicated on Nov. 17. Mr. Carnegie's gift was \$20,000, to which was added \$8000 collected by the college. The building is named for Mr. Carnegie's daughter, because it belongs to a woman's college. The main address was made by Professor Warring Wilkinson, of Berkeley.

Minneapolis (Minn.) P. L. (16th rpt., 1905.) Added 11,600; total 153,441. Issued, home use 560,002 (juvenile 126,000). New registration 11,372; total registration 44,218.

A beginning of a collection of musical scores for circulation has been made.

"The reading rooms of the library are so attractive and convenient, and access to the books so easy, that a large proportion of the serious reading is done upon the premises; this makes the outside circulation show a larger percentage of light reading, so that if the circulation figures alone were considered, they would indicate a condition of things which is not true. It is estimated that at least a half million of books are read or consulted in the reading rooms, aside from

the magazines and newspapers, and this almost entirely of a serious nature. The only place where an actual account has been kept is in the art room, the attendance there amounting to 8067 readers, beside the numerous sightseers."

A new station was established in October at Linden Hills. There are now fifteen branches and stations, not including the schools, settlements and factories from which books are circulated.

One of Miss Countryman's recommendations is of general interest: "On New Year's evening, 1905, the library building was opened throughout for a public reception. The city was invited to inspect the building and the changes that had been made. It was estimated that nearly 2000 people visited the building during the evening. This year the experiment was repeated, and music was furnished to increase the pleasure of visitors. Invitation placards were posted in many lodging houses and Washington avenue restaurants, factories and in various portions of the city. A good attendance resulted, of which at least 75 per cent. were people who had never been in the building before. It seems fitting that at least once a year a public building of this sort should be opened to the public, and that they should receive an especial invitation to inspect the entire building and contents. It is one of the best methods of advertising the library."

Moorhead (Minn.) Carnegie L. The new building, the gift of Mr. Carnegie, was dedicated with formal exercises on Oct. 15. The building is of stone and pressed brick, in the Roman style, and cost \$14,500.

Morristown (N. J.) L. The library was opened Oct. 22 as a free circulating library, in accordance with the will of the late William B. Skidmore, which contained a provision granting the library a bequest of \$20,000 if it should be made free.

The circulation increased 300 per cent. the first week.

Nashua (N. H.) P. L. The library has been giving an exhibit on the brown-tail and gypsy moths that have wrought such havoc with trees. The exhibition consists of 47 views of the work done by these pests in New Hampshire and neighboring states, pictures depicting the methods employed in fighting them, and the insects themselves in all stages of development. The pictures, etc., are loaned to the library by the entomological department of New Hampshire College, which is making an effort to set before the people of its vicinity the full import of this menace to foliage.

New Orleans (La.) F. P. L. The library board has unanimously recommended to the council the acceptance of the bid of the Jefferson Construction Company for the new library building. The bid was \$194,200. One of the other bidders filed a protest

against the acceptance, on the ground that the Jefferson bid was informal, because a sample of the stone to be used in construction was not furnished. The board decided that the alleged informality was not sufficient to set aside the bid.

Notice having been given by the mayor that the buildings occupying the site of the new United States post-office must be cleared from the ground by Dec. 15, the trustees of the library, which occupies part of St. Patrick's Hall, on this site, have rented the house at 1115 Prytania street for the interval before the new building is completed. This is the old Loche home, and was used as General Butler's headquarters when he occupied the city with the federal troops. The library opened in its new quarters Nov. 26. The old building was sold at public auction Nov. 28, and brought only \$575. The buyer must clear the ground.

New York City. Institute of Musical Art. A circulating music library was opened by the Institute in October. Each subscriber is entitled to draw six pieces at a time and to exchange them once a week, or to keep them for two weeks. The library was founded and circulated for more than thirty years by the firm of G. Schirmer, and contains over 6000 pieces of four-hand music for one piano and nearly 2500 pieces for players of two pianos. It is housed in the building where the Lenox Library came into being, 53 Fifth avenue.

New York P. L. In the lower hall of the Lenox Library building there have been placed on exhibition a number of etchings by Adolphe Lalauze, recently deceased. Lalauze, who was born in 1838, was an etcher of extreme facility. Like Boilvin and Hedouin, he was one of the illustrators of the *Petite Bibliothèque Artistique* of Jouaust. Of his etchings in the New York Public Library (most of them forming part of the S. P. Avery collection), many are reproductions of paintings by old and modern masters: Rembrandt, Bronzino, Van Dyck, Burne-Jones, Seymour, Casanova, Baudry, Huet, Gonzales. He thus translated into black-and-white painters of widely different styles and personality. The little exhibit is interesting from more than one point of view.

The photographs of Italian paintings, selected from the A. A. Hopkins collection, will be on exhibition in the print galleries, on the floor above, for some time to come. They are attracting many visitors.

On Dec. 1 fire broke out on the roof of the new building in Bryant Park, as a result of the overturning of a tinsmith's furnace. It was soon extinguished, and the damage was only \$500.

Newark (N. J.) F. P. L. (17th rpt., 1905.) Added 9720; total 106,190. Issued, home use 511,294 (fict. 65.3 per cent., duplicate collection, 5.1 per cent.). Receipts \$62,720.21; expenses \$61,525.39 (salaries \$23,203.19, books

\$7792.56, binding \$4235.39, periodicals \$1336.62.)

After a brief summary by Mr. Dana, the information of the report is arranged under dictionary headings, such as "Accessions," "Books lent," "Catalogs, Manufacturers," "New Jersey poems," "Vertical file," "Young People's Department." There are plates giving exterior of the library and floor plans, new statuary and busts, bookplates in use in the library, etc.

Among the interesting devices of the library may be noted "the sending of monthly bulletins to people who may be interested in recent books or magazine articles on specific subjects. These bulletins are uniform in style. They are mimeographed on 8 x 11 sheets and are distributed by mail or otherwise to individuals or firms to whom they specially appeal." A sample copy is reproduced among the cuts in the report.

During the year 74 organizations have held 653 meetings in the library building, with a total attendance of 18,609.

Following the work started in 1904 of placing deposit libraries in department stores for the use of employes, an effort was made this year to establish similar deposit libraries in factories where girls are employed. Ten factories were visited and two accepted the offer. In July a case of 50 books was sent to one and in August another 50 books were added. Visits are made monthly to these libraries and the books are changed as requested. In November back numbers of several magazines especially interesting to women were sent and have proved popular. A case of 50 books was sent to the other plant in November, the selection being for men and women. The employes are interested and the scheme seems to find favor.

The record of work with schools and for teachers is the usual valuable one.

As to publications: "In May, 1904, the library published a little pamphlet by Mr. F. J. Urquhart, called 'Newark, the story of its early days.' This was sold at 5c. per copy. Many copies were lent. It was used by teachers for reading and in the study of Newark history. In December, 1905, the library published a second similar pamphlet, also by Mr. Urquhart, called 'Newark, the story of its awakening.' This has been sold, lent and used in the same manner as the first. Both have supplied the library with many books to lend, especially to young people. Both have helped to increase the interest of young Newarkers in their own city. A third story is to follow.

"Several years ago the library began to get together stories and poems descriptive of historic people, places and events in New Jersey. Out of the material collected 40 poems have been selected to make up an anthology of New Jersey verse suitable for school children. The Sons of the American Revolution intend to publish this work."

The list of a "Thousand of the best novels," compiled in 1904, is under revision. 12,900 copies have been printed altogether, of which 9150 were for other libraries or purchasers.

Norwich, Ct. Otis L. (Rpt.—year ending Aug. 31, 1906.) Added 2536; total 34,740. Issued, home use 99,060 (fict. 60.41 per cent.; juv. fict. 19.63 per cent.). New registration 959; total registration 16,095. Receipts \$8451.77; expenditures \$8341.69 (salaries \$4051.85, books \$1526.73; periodicals \$250.95, binding \$142.10, light \$268.88, fuel \$243.75).

A very slight decrease in issues for home use is shown, almost all of which is in the children's department. A brief review of the history of the library is given, showing its constant advance.

It is planned to begin storing the older government documents, in order to get shelf room for the new books.

Oregon City, Ore. A public library association was formed at a meeting held Nov. 16. The sum of \$165 was subscribed at the meeting, and the city council is to be asked to aid in the project. The movement for a free library was started by the Oregon City Woman's Club.

Peoria (Ill.) P. L. (26th rpt.—year ending May 31, 1906.) Added 5000; total 100,029. Issued, home use 195,920. New registration 480; total 8485. Receipts \$19,749.72; expenses \$19,726 (salaries \$6829.12, books \$4657.11, periodicals \$815.06, binding \$1950.01, light \$1095.50, fuel \$471.27).

The circulation shows the largest gain of any year in the history of the library—21,000.

Philadelphia F. L. The Lehigh avenue branch, Lehigh avenue and Sixth street, was formally opened on the evening of Nov. 20. This is the third of the branches built from the Carnegie gift. It is built of terra cotta with a granite base. The main room is 119 x 53. There is a lecture room, in which the formal exercises were held. The speakers were Henry R. Edmunds, president of the Board of Education; Dr. Martin G. Brumbaugh, superintendent of schools; Rev. Edgar Cope, rector of St. Simeon's Protestant Episcopal Church; W. D. Hewitt, architect of the building; Select Councilman Samuel Lamond and Representative James Clarency. The present equipment of the branch is 10,000 volumes.

The fourth Carnegie building, the Tacony branch, Torresdale avenue and Knorr street, was opened on the evening of Nov. 27. It is built of brick and terra cotta, the main room being 68 x 44. A lecture room 44 x 35 opens directly into the main room. The site is the gift of Jacob S. Disston. The chief address was made by the Rev. Robert A. Edwards. John Thomson, librarian, Free Library; William Smith, president of the Disston Library; Prof. Burd Worrill, principal of the public school in Bridesburg; Henry R.

Edmunds, president of the Board of Education; the Rev. Maris Graves, the Rev. Edward Reeves and George Clark, of Holmsburg, also spoke.

Pittsburgh, Pa. Carnegie L. In the notice of the 10th annual report, in the October LIBRARY JOURNAL, the "reading room use of books and magazines, 157,096," gives the figures for the central library only. The total reading room use, including the branches, was 727,069.

The reference room at the central library was reopened Nov. 25. In the remodelling of the building the capacity of this room has been almost doubled.

Portland (Ore.) L. Assoc. (42d rpt.—year ending Dec. 27, 1905.) Added 5326; total 50,906. Issued, home use 177,076, of which 40,650 was from the children's room. Visitors to reference department 27,324. Receipts \$19,795.84, expenses \$20,928.68 (salaries \$13,080, binding \$2286, light and heat \$966.81). Book fund receipts \$6871.95, expenses \$6084.35.

During the year the library has extended its space by using the second floor, long occupied by the Art Association. This necessitated readjustment everywhere, of which the detail is given.

The visit of the A. L. A. to Portland receives its share of attention, and Miss Isom expresses warm appreciation of the advantages accruing to the library interests of the Northwest from the conference.

Despite the distractions of the Lewis and Clark exposition, the library more than held its own as to use.

"With no special incentive from the library, and in fact almost neglected during the busy summer months, the county stations have continued to multiply and to read more books and better books. The librarians in charge whose services are voluntary have almost without exception shown a delightful interest in their small collections and have taken pains to bring to the library for exchange packages of books little read or of books thoroughly read, thereby keeping their collections alive and interesting."

An innovation was tried in closing the library one day and a half for inventory purposes, and the new plan is said to have worked admirably.

Providence (R. I.) P. L. (28th rpt., 1905.) Added 5036; total 119,079. Issued, home use 129,707. New registration 6932; total registration (1903-05) 18,347. Receipts \$39,832.26; disbursements \$40,496.73 (expenses \$32,928.04, books \$5203.53, binding \$2364.26).

"The most serious incident of the past year has been the disappearance of books from the shelves in large numbers. In the report one year ago the statement was made that 'In no previous year has the library suffered more from the annoyance of books perma-

nently missing, and therefore, very reluctantly, set down to theft.' Through the year 1904 close watch was kept upon the shelves, by the shelf inspector, with the result that in the open-shelf portion of the library, books would be repeatedly missing for weeks in succession, and would then be found on the next inspection returned to their places. In some cases also such books would be found smuggled in behind a row of other books. This peculiarly baffling experience made it necessary to delay for a time the final conclusion. At the close of the annual inspection of 1905, however, a record was made of all those books which had been missing from Jan. 1, 1904, to Dec. 31, 1905, and the total amounted to 1796. Out of this number 434 had been entered as "missing" in the annual inspections of both years. Since Oct. 1, 1905, when this report was made, one precaution after another has been adopted, with a view to checking the loss of books, some of which have already been enumerated in this report. Not only has it thus far been impossible to discover the thief in any one of these instances, but it has also been impossible to check the thieving. From Oct. 1, 1905, to the end of the year, about 40 volumes disappeared from the Industrial Library alone. From every point of view this is lamentable—from that of the library, which is thus losing so much of its valuable property, and from that of the offending readers, who have been willing to commit this crime against property. Not the least of the occasions for regret is to be found in the modifications thus rendered necessary in the attitude of the library towards the public. Heretofore its position has been that of throwing every room wide open, and trusting the public to the fullest extent. Now, from sad experience, it is found necessary to open no room unless it can be adequately manned with an attendant in charge of it and observing the use which is made of the books. It would be a thousand pities if a result of this change of practice were to be, in any degree, a change of attitude towards the reader, on the part of the library, and its attendants. Hitherto, such attitude has always been emphatically cordial and open; and it is to be hoped that it will always continue to be so."

A strong statement is made of the need for branches.

Stratford (Ct.) L. Assoc. A portion of the very elaborate geographical library of E. E. Beecher, of Oronoque, has been on exhibition in the library, and has attracted much attention from visitors. The collection is of interest to the general public, as well as to persons with an inclination towards geographical study.

University of California L., Berkeley. Serious losses of books have been recently discovered, and it is feared that they are due to thefts by students. Mutilation of library books has also been going on, and Mr. Rowell

has offered \$20 reward for information sufficient to convict the person mutilating a volume of college songs that was posted for reference near the main desk.

University of Michigan L. A number of fine stained glass windows have found their way into the General Library of the University of Michigan, through the generosity of the librarian, Mr. Theodore W. Koch. Eight of these pieces will be placed in the windows above the apse of the reading room, two on either side, while the center of the apse will contain half windows with the printers' marks of Aldus, Robert Copeland, John Siberch and Erhard Oglin. The windows are all the work of Nicola D'Ascenzo, of Philadelphia, an Italian artist who has been working in this country for several years. They were originally the property of the Booklovers' Library of Philadelphia.

University of Vermont L., Burlington. (Mss. rpt.—year ending May 31, 1906.) Added 2081 v. and 324 pm.; total 73,035 v. and 32,480 pm. Issued, home use 7492. 416 serials were currently received. The card catalog received 1852 new cards, of which only 208 were printed cards from the Library of Congress, etc. 820 cards received additions or changes.

The library was open every day in the year with the exception, during vacation, of Sundays and holidays, and of Memorial day of 1906.

The work has been carried on by the librarian with only one regular assistant, together with three student helpers and a capable janitor. The collection itself and the work of the library have far outgrown the accommodations of the present building, erected in 1885, so that shelf room, catalog room, work room, and accommodations and conveniences for readers are all inadequate. The urgent need of more shelving is represented by the librarian in her report. This appeal has since been met by steps to provide extra stacks, which will afford relief till the necessary enlargement of the building.

Washington, D. C. District of Columbia P. L. (Rpt.—year ending June 30, 1906.) Added 16,031; total 84,668. Issued, home use 433,096 (fict. 68 per cent.). Reference room use 114,428. New registration 12,885; total registration 39,800.

An increase of use of almost every department is shown in this record. The gain in issue of books for home use was 22 per cent., that in the children's room being 19 per cent. of this. The increase in reading and reference use was 54 per cent., making an advance of 261 per cent. in the last two years.

The decrease in the percentage of fiction circulated is again noteworthy, being one from 71.8 (1904-05) to 68.

"The means taken to bring about this reduction have simply been so to arrange, display, and advertise the resources of the li-

brary that books other than fiction will be made approximately as conspicuous as fiction. In publishers' advertisements, so-called book reviews, etc., the novel is put forward so much more clamorously than other literature that the library should do something to readjust the balance in order to prevent the unreflecting person from thinking that the novel is the only class of literature worth his attention. This library, therefore, although continuing to display an abundance of new and standard fiction on open shelves, has also continued the plan of placing in rotation on open shelves the various other classes of the collection. During the year all classes of non-fiction works except history and a few foreign books have at some time been available for free access during a considerable period. New non-fiction accessions, regularly listed in Saturday editions of the local newspapers, are likewise displayed on open shelves. . . .

"It must not be thought from the foregoing statement that the library seeks in any way to apologize for its fiction circulation or regards it an unworthy part of its work. On the contrary, if out of the increase in circulation of 155,000 in the last two years the proportion of fiction had been smaller than it has been, there would almost be ground for thinking that there is something abnormal about this community. The normal individual, whether adult or child, requires imaginative literature either in the form of poetry, drama or tale. Just now the dominant form of literary expression is the novel, and practically all the great tragedies and comedies of life (as well as the smaller ones) have been or are being embodied in fiction."

The work of the young people's department and that with schools have been constantly growing. A teacher's reference library, open daily, including Sundays, has been opened. It includes reference books and other books selected by a committee of teachers and 1500 volumes of school text books sent by publishers. Twenty current educational periodicals are on file. A monthly education bulletin has also been issued and sent to the principals of all public and private schools for posting.

Books have been issued through six settlement stations.

Fifty-one public meetings were held in the lecture hall, by 12 associations or clubs. The attendance at the 26 free lectures given under the board of education was 8079. During the past year the experiment has been tried, with considerable success, of assigning one of the study rooms to groups of individuals as a place for study and for the better use of the resources of the library. Fourteen organizations held 88 meetings in this room.

The following annotated reference lists have been issued: "Books on gardening," second edition; "Interesting biographies," "Periodicals on file," and "Fine arts."

An apprentice class was conducted during the year. Seventeen passed the examinations,

14 completed the course. The major portion of the course consists of practical work under the close supervision of heads of departments. A certain amount of theoretical instruction has also been given. The importance in library work of a knowledge of current affairs has been emphasized by a series of round tables at which designated members of the class have reported on recent events.

In response to repeated demands through the press, an appropriation was secured enabling the library to be kept open last year on Sundays for reference use and on holidays for reference use and home circulation. The library is therefore open on every day in the year except July 4 and Dec. 25. On Sundays all of the public parts of the library are open with the exception of the circulation department. An assistant is in attendance at the registration desk, and many persons who visit the library only on Sunday have taken out cards on which members of their families draw books for them on week days.

The needs of the library are forcibly set forth—need of larger staff, in order to use more than the first floor of the library, importance of beginning the Carnegie branch buildings at once, and the formation of duplicate collections for circulation through schools, Sunday-schools, police and fire stations, institutions, department stores, etc. Specific recommendations for all salaries are made.

"Although in this report it has often seemed necessary to dwell on some of the discouraging features of the local public library situation, it must not be inferred that there is any other expectation but that the final outcome will be satisfactory. The Public Library was late in being established as compared with other municipal public libraries, and has always had a hard fight for existence, due to the fact that statistics have shown that the District of Columbia was better supplied with libraries than any similar area in the United States, and therefore—so reasoned the legislators—could not have any great needs in this direction. Gradually, however, Congress is realizing that unless and until this library has adequate support the mass of the people, including the Federal Government employees, will be without helpful library facilities. Inasmuch as this is not a theory, but an actual condition, the justice of the library's contention is sure to prevail and adequate library development cannot be long postponed."

Detailed reports of departments follow Mr. Bowerman's full general statement. The report is illustrated by 10 plates, and is printed in simplified spelling.

Wilmington (N. C.) P. L. On Nov. 3 the North Carolina Scrosis turned over to the city the public library they have been conducting. The ceremonies took place in the new library rooms on the second floor of the city hall. Miss Margaret Gibson, president

of Scrosis, made the presentation, and the library was accepted for the city by Mayor A. M. Waddell. Scrosis has been working for this library, and to have it made a municipally supported library, since 1901, and is to be congratulated on having brought about this desirable result.

Youngstown, O. Reuben McMillan F. L. (Rpt.—year ending April 30, 1906.) Added 3805; total 28,260. Issued, home use 82,726. New borrowers 2089. Reading room attendance 34,609. In February the Haselton Library was taken by the trustees and opened as the Haselton branch. The Steelton school house is also being used as a distributing center.

Ten clubs submitted their programs to the library, and references were looked up on 238 subjects.

The story hour has been very successful, a series of Robin Hood stories having been told on Saturday mornings.

Six home libraries have been carried on during the year, the total number of children in the groups being 87.

FOREIGN

Baroda, India. Shrimant Sampatrao Gaikwad, of Baroda, brother of His Royal Highness, the Maharajah Gaekwar, of Baroda, has been visiting this county, to study library methods and library buildings. The Gaikwad has for years thrown open for public use his own library of some 12,000 English books, and about the same number in Sanskrit, and some of the modern Indian languages. A building, to cost about \$75,000, is now to be put up. Baroda is probably the most advanced of the Indian states. Compulsory education has been established. The city of Baroda has a population of about 100,000, and the state one of about 3,000,000.

The Gaikwad is deeply interested in the public library movement, and determined that the Baroda Library shall be of the best type in every detail.

Bradford (Eng.) P. Ls. (36th rpt.—year ending Aug. 12, 1906.) Added 7649; total 141,470. Issued, home use and ref. 756,311. New registration 15,580. Important alterations have been made during the year. The former art gallery is now given to the reference department, the lending library is transferred to the old reference room, and the former lending library space is now a news room. The Bowling branch library was opened on Jan. 22.

Bristol (Eng.) P. Ls. (Rpt.—year ending March 31, 1906.) Added 5201; total 124,143. Issued, home use 460,504; reference and reading 134,691; specifications of patents 15,693. "This year out of an issue of 610,888 volumes there has to be recorded the loss of two volumes only by default of borrower and guarantor." The branch library at Westbury-on-Trym was opened March 13, 1906.

Glasgow, Scott. Baillie's Institution F. P. L. (Rpt.—year ending May 15, 1906.) Added 426; total 19,723 v., 1835 pm. Issued 41,148, a daily average of 135. This is again, as last year, a record of diminished use, attributed by the librarian to the numerous additions being made to the public collections of the city. The number of books issued to women was 3819, as against 2657 last year. The total attendance is given as 50,325.

Kimberley P. L., South Africa. (23d rpt.—year ending June 30, 1906.) Added 889, total 31,835. Issued, home use 48,209. Total registration 494. This is a subscription library, and there has been a fall in the number of subscribers. A reading room for women has been opened. The proceedings of the 23d annual meeting are given, including "In defence of fiction," by Dr. Watkins, chairman of the library.

Leeds (Eng.) F. P. Ls. (36th rpt.—year ending March 31, 1906.) Added 12,044; total 260,903 (ref. lib. 76,273, central lending lib. 48,906, branch lib. 135,724). Issued, home use from central lending lib. 333,507, from branch lib. 1,074,451. The total use of books in all the libraries was 1,536,930, an increase over 1904-1905 of 113,377. The increase in circulation from the branch libraries was 110,817. A branch was established in July in the Brownhill council school, and a distributing branch in April in the Wesleyan schoolroom, Meanwood. It has been decided to accept candidates for the minor positions on the staff only on competitive examination.

Liverpool (Eng.) P. Ls. (53d rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, 1905.) Total, ref lib. 133,953, branch libraries 128,716. Issued (in reading rooms and for home use) 2,418,729, periodicals 1,326,928. Newspaper readers 1,350,851. Attendance at 164 free lectures 76,481. Total registration 35,859. The books of a "wholly technical character" issued during the year numbered 256,675. The books issued to the blind were 1767, the volumes of vocal and instrumental music lent 33,315. "This library has the honor of being the first among public libraries to circulate books for the blind and music, the former in 1857, the latter in 1859."

The Brown reading room has this year been equipped with an open access collection of 500 volumes. The abolishment of the necessity for written application for all books has been attended by most gratifying results. During the year two branch libraries were opened. The first, at West Derby, was the gift of Andrew Carnegie. The second is the Kirkdale branch. The number of branch lending libraries and reading rooms is now eleven. Six of the free lectures this year were given to audiences wholly of children. The report has exterior and interior views of the new branches.

Victoria P. L., Museums and National Gallery, Melbourne. (Rpt., 1905.) Added, ref.

lib. 5624 v., 771 pm.; total 161,955. Added, lending library 1797; total 22,542. The lending library had 8440 active borrowers, a slight decrease from the previous year, which is attributed at least in part to the fact that several of the municipalities have opened free lending libraries. From the travelling libraries loans were made to 63 libraries, the total number of books lent being 8176.

The library has just issued "The book of the Public Library, Museums and National Gallery of Victoria, 1856-1906," by Edmund La Touche Armstrong, chief librarian. This attractive book of 135 pages "makes no claim to be a complete history of the institution. It is but a chronological record of the main facts connected with its progress during the first half century of its existence, and some notes on those who have served it well in the past." The record is an interesting one of steady advance. There are many illustrations, chiefly portraits: the plates showing the library (exterior) in 1856 and again in 1906, are a striking comment on the advance of the library. There is a full index that adds much to the ease of use of the volume, and so to its value.

Gifts and Bequests

Bridgeton (N. J.) L. Assoc. By the will of the late Percival Nichols the library receives \$500.

Brown University L. The late Mr. George W. Harris, of Boston, has given Brown University a splendid collection of books in memory of his father, Luther M. Harris, who graduated from Brown in 1861. Mr. George Harris has been well known as a connoisseur and collector of works of art and its literature. The gift includes over 3000 volumes. In addition he has given a fine lot of paintings, pieces of sculpture and exquisite designs in pottery, glass and bronze. Among the paintings are a Rembrandt, a Tintoretto, a Velasquez, an Andrea Del Sarto and a Murillo.

Miss Hortense Webster, formerly cataloger of the library, has presented to the Harris Collection 106 autograph letters of George Henry Calvert. The author was a great-grandson of Lord Baltimore, and on his mother's side was a direct descendant of the painter Rubens. He was a resident of Newport, and at one time mayor of that city, but he is better known as a poet, dramatist and prose writer.

Cambridge City, Ind. The Rev. Mr. Caldwell, of Dublin, has offered to furnish funds to support a library and reading room in Cambridge for the benefit of young men, if the Helen Hunt Club will agree to manage the same. A committee has been appointed to consider the matter in detail.

Canal Dover, O. The American Sheet Steel Company has presented to the city the books and fixtures in its reading room and library here, which have been maintained by the com-

pany for three years. The value of the gift is \$2500.

Chicago University L. The fund for a library building in memory of Dr. Harper has now reached over \$125,000.

Geneseo, N. Y. Wadsworth L. By the will of the late Martin Brimmer, of Boston, the library receives his collection of 5000 volumes, which is said to be worth \$50,000. It includes many expensive bindings. There is also a case of Arundel prints and a Barye bronze. Mr. Brimmer was a distant relative of the Wadsworths.

Geneva, Neb. Dr. H. L. Smith has given the city a twenty-one years' lease on the old post-office room, to be used for the H. L. Smith Library, now the property of the city.

Johns Hopkins University L. The medical library has been enriched by two collections. One is the old Warrington Dispensary Library, of Liverpool, consisting chiefly of old books valuable in the study of the history of medicine, and containing 944 volumes. It is the gift of Mr. William A. Marburg, who bought it for Johns Hopkins on the recommendation of Dr. William Osler. The other collection is the library of Friedrich Ahlfeld, of Marburg University, Germany, a collection of 936 volumes, given by Mr. Francis M. Jercks.

Lee, Mass. Curtis Judd, of Dwight, Ill., has given \$500 toward the new library building. Mr. Judd spent his boyhood in Lee.

Millersburg, O. Dr. S. P. Wise, of Millersburg, has tendered the commissioners of Holmes county a site and \$15,000 for a county public library. The matter was submitted to the voters of the county at the regular November election.

Monmouth, Ill. Warren County L. The library receives \$2,086.73 by the terms of the will of William P. Pressly.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Adriance Memorial L. The library has received from Miss Elizabeth M. Weeks and Miss Caroline B. Weeks the private library of their father, the late James M. Weeks. It is a general library of about 3000 volumes. A special book-plate will be added as part of the gift.

Providence, R. I. Brown University L. The library has received from Professor Lester F. Ward between 800 and 900 volumes, many of them valuable government documents.

North Stonington, R. I. The offering of the will of Henry Dwight Wheeler, of New York, for probate has made public the fact that \$100,000 is left for the Wheeler High School, at North Stonington, to be used in part for library purposes.

Seneca Falls (N. Y.) L. Assoc. The library receives \$5000 by the will of Wilhelmus Myndersee, who died Nov. 13. The library also receives \$500 by the will of Miss Eliza A. Pollard.

Washington and Lee University L. The library receives \$5000 from the Rockefeller fund of the General Education Board.

Waterville (Me.) F. L. The library has received from the estate of Miss Alice Getchell, Cambridge, Mass., a large number of books, and her will includes a bequest to the library of \$500.

Yale University L. The Yale Art School receives the valuable library of the late Professor James M. Hoppin by his will.

York, Pa. The library of the late Rev. Charles James Wood, rector of St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church, consisting of about 9000 volumes, will be converted into a city library, thus carrying out the wish of the rector. In case of failure to observe this provision of the will, the books were to be given in trust to the General Theological Seminary, N. Y.

Carnegie library gifts

Aberdeen, Wash. Nov., \$15,000.

Abilene, Tex. Nov., \$25,000.

Arkansas City, Kan. July 6. \$16,000. Competitive designs are invited from architects.

Atlanta, Ga. Nov. 28, \$15,000, for two branches.

Baltimore, Md. Enoch Pratt F. L. Nov. 24, \$500,000 for twenty branch libraries. Sites for four of these have been offered by Francis A. White, Mortimer W. West, the Forest Park Improvement Association and Robert S. Carswell.

Fort Smith, Ark. \$25,000.

Frankfort, Ind. Nov., \$5000 in addition to previous gift of \$12,500.

Great Bend, Kan. Nov. 14, \$12,500.

Grove City College, Grove City, Pa. Nov., \$2000 in addition to previous gift of \$30,000.

High Point, N. C. Dec., \$15,000.

Howell, Mich. \$15,000.

Iowa Falls, Ia. Ellsworth College. \$10,000.

Lawrence University, Appleton, Wis. Nov. \$4000 in addition to previous gift of \$50,000.

Little Rock, Ark. Nov., \$50,000.

McPherson College, Kan. Nov., \$2000 in addition to previous gift of \$10,000.

Olean, N. Y. Nov. 30, \$25,000.

Pittsburg, Pa. Nov., \$150,000 for a branch library at Homewood.

Riverhead, L. I. \$5000.

St. Andrew's University, Scotl. Oct., \$50,000 additional, for library.

Stoughton, Wis. \$3000 in addition to previous \$10,000.

Stuart, Ia. Nov., \$6,000.

Tecumseh, Neb. Nov., \$6,000.

Zumbrota, Minn. Nov., \$5000.

Librarians.

BAKER, Miss Gertrude, has resigned the librarianship of the Carnegie Library, East Liverpool, O., to accept that of the government library at Honolulu, H. I.

BATES, Mrs. Helen Page, assistant in sociology in the New York State Library, has been appointed librarian of the Charity Organization Society at 105 East 22d street, New York City.

CARR, Miss Georgina E., of the New York State Library School, 1905-6, has been appointed assistant in the circulating department of the Worcester Public Library.

GAILLARD-SACKETT, Edwin White Gaillard, supervisor of work with schools, New York Public Library, and Miss Clara Smith Sackett, recently first assistant in the Webster branch of the New York Public Library, were married on Nov. 1.

Goss, Miss Harriet, has resigned the headship of the Public Library, Alliance, O., to take that of the Carnegie Public Library, East Liverpool, O. Miss Goss has been at Alliance about a year, having gone there from the Cleveland Public Library.

GROESBECK, Mrs. Henrietta, has been appointed librarian at Newton, Ia. Mrs. Groesbeck was formerly assistant librarian in the Bloomington (Ill.) Public Library, and recently has been an assistant in the Iowa Library Commission.

JUDSON, Miss Katharine B., of the New York State Library School, 1904-05, has resigned her position as librarian of the Carnegie Public Library at Kalispell, Mont., to take charge of the periodical department of the Public Library at Seattle, Wash.

MALTBY, Mrs. Adelaide B., Pratt Institute Library School, 1900, has been appointed special children's librarian of the Chatham Square branch of the New York Public Library.

MASDEN, Miss Jessie, of Marion, O., has assumed her work as librarian at Piqua, Ohio.

NUNN, Miss Janet H., New York State Library School, 1905-06, has been appointed librarian of the Carnegie Public Library, Kalispell, Mont.

RUPP, Miss Julia, Pratt Institute Library School, 1906, has been appointed librarian of the Public Library at Oil City, Pa.

SEVERANCE, H. O. An error was made in the November number in announcing the appointment of Mr. Severance to the librarianship of the University of Michigan. It is the University of Missouri that has secured Mr. Severance's services as librarian. He has been on the staff of the University of Michigan for nine years.

SIMPSON, Miss Elizabeth F., has resigned her position as librarian of the Normal School, Stevens Point, Wis., to become librarian in charge of the circulating and reference department of the Michigan Normal College, Ypsilanti, Mich.

STEWART, John L., has been elected director of the Lehigh University Library. Mr. Stewart was for 10 years a teacher in the Northeast Manual Training School.

THAYER, Miss Mary S., died Nov. 16 at St. Margaret's Hospital, Cambridge, Mass., at the age of 71. Miss Thayer was born in Cambridge and had always lived there. For the past forty years she had been an assistant in the Cambridge Public Library.

WILSON, Miss Florence O., who has for some time been assistant librarian of the Springfield (Mo.) Public Library, has been appointed librarian, to succeed her sister, Miss Debra Wilson.

Cataloging and Classification.

CARNEGIE L. OF PITTSBURGH. Story hour courses for children from Greek myths, the Iliad and the Odyssey, as conducted by the children's department, 1906-1907. 29 p. O.

This carefully prepared list of definite references, similar to the one previously published on Norse mythology and the Nibelungenlied, will be valuable to library workers everywhere. It is in two divisions, the course on The siege of Troy being for older children and that on Greek myths for the younger. The list is, of course, most useful as a reference list on the subject, whether the material is to be used for story telling or for other purposes.

DEICHMANSKE BIBLIOTHEK, Christiania, Norway. Böger for barn og ungdom, 1906. 75 p. O. (Bogfortegnelse 15.)

A classified list, with an occasional annotation. The last division is *belles lettres* for young people (over 15), and includes as "old" reading as Ibsen, Björnson, Ebers, and all of Dickens. The list is attractively printed.

ENGLISH CATALOGUE OF BOOKS . . . giving in one alphabet, under author and title, the size, price, month and year of publication and publisher of books issued in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. Vol. VII., January, 1901, to December, 1905. London, The Publishers' Circular, Ltd., 1906. [3]+1328 p. O.

GLASGOW (Scott.) P. L. S. INDEX CATALOGUE of the Dennistown District Library, 1906. 52+433 p. D.

A dictionary catalog, with brief titles, date

and call number. There are occasional brief annotations.

A "List of publications in American Braille" has been reprinted from the 73d annual report of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Instruction of the Blind. It is a pamphlet of 29 octavo pages, giving a list of the books stereotyped at various schools in the 12 years ending May 1, 1906, and a description of the American Braille writing, music notation and mathematical notation. The list will be of great service to the libraries issuing books to the blind.

The WILMINGTON (*Del.*) INSTITUTE F. L. has issued a list of "Books on women and the home," eight pages, without annotations.

Bibliography

BRADDOCK'S EXPEDITION. List of references on Braddock's expedition. (*In* Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh *Monthly Bulletin*, November, p. 497-507.)
With full annotations.

CHRISTMAS. Reading list for Christmas. (*In* *News Notes of California Libraries*, November, p. 355-59.)

Compiled by the reference and loan department of the California State Library.

—Milton P. L. Christmas list, 1906. Milton, Mass. 12 p. 12°. Books suitable for boys and girls.

CREDIT. Prendergast, W. A. Credit and its uses. N. Y., Appleton, 1906. 12+306 p. D. Bibliography (2 p.).

DOMESTIC ECONOMY. Chicago P. L. Books on domestic economy. Chicago, Ill., 1906. 30 p. S.

FLOODS. Murphy, E. C., and others. Index to flood literature. (*In* U. S. Geological Survey. Water-supply and irrigation paper no. 162. Washington, Gov. Print. Office, 1906. p. 88-101.)

FRENCH ARMY. Hirsch, Paul. Bibliographie der französischen truppengeschichten. Berlin, E. S. Mittler und sohn, 1906. 4+140 p., 20cm.

JAMES, HENRY. Phillips, Le Roy. A bibliography of the writings of Henry James. Bost., Houghton, 1906. 1x, 187 p. O.

A full bibliography, with exact indications and descriptions, including Original works, Contributions to books and a translation, and Contributions to periodicals. The bibliography of Mr. James's work, compiled by Mr. Frederick Allen King and published in Miss

E. L. Cary's "Novels of Mr. Henry James" (Putnam, 1905), is an excellent check list, but is much less inclusive than Mr. Phillips's book, and does not give exact bibliographical descriptions.

MUNICIPAL IMPROVEMENT. Special list: municipal improvement. (*In* Springfield (Mass.) City Library *Bulletin*, December, p. 399-406.)
With annotations.

NAPOLEON. Cambridge modern history, by the late Lord Acton, ed. by A. W. Ward, G. W. Prothero, Stanley Leathes. volume 1x, Napoleon. New York, Macmillan, 1906. 28+946 p. Q.

"General bibliography: a selected list of such works as will be found generally useful with regard to the subject matter of two or more chapters in this volume," p. 773-893.

OCEAN CURRENTS. Rühl, Alfred. Beiträge zur kenntnis der morphologischen wirk-samkeit der meeresströmungen. pt. 1. [Berlin, E. S. Mittler und sohn, 1905.] 20 p., 25½ cm.
Bibliographical footnotes.

PERSIA. Reference list: Persia. (*In* Rock-ford (Ill.) Public Library *Bulletin*, October, p. 58-60.)

PHILIPPINES. Library of Congress. List of works relating to the American occupation of the Philippine Islands, 1898-1903, by A. P. C. Griffin. Washington, Gov. Print. Office, 1905. 100 p. Q.
Reprinted from the "List of books . . . on the Philippine Islands, 1903, with some additions to 1905."

STEAM AND GAS ENGINES. Brooklyn P. L. List of books on steam and gas engines. Brooklyn, N. Y., 1906. 23 p. S.

STRING FIGURES. Jayne, Mrs. Caroline Furness. String figures: a study of cat's cradle in many lands. N. Y., Scribner, 1906. 23+407 p. O.

Pages 396-398 give bibliography, most of it referring to ethnological publications.

THANKSGIVING. New Bedford F. P. L. Thanksgiving Day. New Bedford, Mass., 1906. 6 p. S.

—Thanksgiving: reference list. (*In* Kansas City (Mo.) Public Library *Quarterly*, October, p. 172-73.)

The *Quarterly* also contains eight pages of information about the holiday, its customs and celebration.

Anonymous and Pseudonyms

The following are supplied by Catalog Division Library of Congress:

Davis, Morgan Lewis, 1862-, is author of *The gas offis*, by the *Offis Boy*.

Kalisch, Burnham, 1867-, is author of *Odd types: a character comedy*, by B. K.

Worthen, George Bedell, 1877-, is author of *Argument*, brief, and decisions. The law of contracts and its application to our transactions.

Notes and Queries

CYCLOPEDIA OF ELECTRICITY.—Librarians contemplating purchasing the "Cyclopedia of electricity," 5 vols., the "Cyclopedia of engineering," 5 vols., or the "Cyclopedia of modern shop practice," 4 vols., all published by the American Technical Society, American School of Correspondence, Chicago, 1906, should compare the contents of these three sets with "Modern engineering practice," 10 vols., published by the Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, 1903. Nearly all the subjects in "Modern engineering practice" are duplicated, word for word, in these three sets, illustrations are the same with the exception of the occasional insertion of a new plate. A few of the subjects have been rewritten, and a little of the matter is new, notably the subject of "Steam turbines;" but there is not enough new matter in the sets to warrant the purchase of any if "Modern engineering practice" is already on the shelves. Another queer feature is that many of the subjects in the "Cyclopedia of electricity" are repeated in the "Cyclopedia of engineering," and in some instances the same subject appears in all three.

CHARLES A. LARSON,
Chicago Public Library.

INFORMATION ON BOOKBINDING LEATHERS.—The Library Association of the United Kingdom, through its committee on leather for libraries, has issued circulars asking data regarding the use of "standard" leather in English libraries. It is proposed to present the information in a "Standard leather dictionary."

"NOTE ON BOOKBINDING."—So many persons are writing me about copies of Douglas Cockerell's "Note on bookbinding," which the committee on bookbinding of the A. L. A. promised to send to members, that I wish to explain the matter in your columns. Mr. Cockerell writes that he is preparing a new edition of the "Note," and that as soon as it is out he will send on the stock. Requests for copies should of course be sent to Mr. Arthur L. Bailey, librarian, Wilmington Institute Free Library, Wilmington, Del., who succeeded me as chairman of that committee.

GEORGE F. BOWERMAN,
Public Library, Washington, D. C.

Humors and Blunders

It is stated that at a recent competitive examination of applicants for a position in the force of a large city library one candidate, doubtless soon convinced of his inability to pass, relieved his mind by submitting the following answers to some of the questions scheduled:

Q. How may the races of mankind be chiefly divided? A. Into losers and winners.

Q. What does the Indo-Germanic family include? A. Indians and Germans; but in Kansas the combination is not an entire success.

Q. Name in chronological order the various people that have inhabited England. A. England has been inhabited by English only. Various foreign people arrived, but immediately became English.

Q. What does the present British Empire include? A. Everything it has been able to grab, except the United States, Ireland and a few of the surrounding planets.

Q. What, in a few words, are transcendentalism, epicurianism and utilitarianism? A. The first means thinking on the roof while living in the basement; the second means living high on \$10 a week; the third is the study of how to do so.

Q. Describe a feasible course for the circumnavigation of the globe, mentioning all bodies of water which would be passed through. A. In a balloon. No waters would be passed through.

Q. Why is piracy now practically extinct? A. Through change of name. Except in the book business, it is now called "diplomacy," "trusteeship," etc.

ON the notice board of an English public library appeared recently the following appeal: "Will the gentleman who took a horn handled umbrella from the stand on Wednesday, kindly return it to the librarian?"

Underneath, some one had pencilled: "Certainly not; weather still unsettled."

ONE of our readers complains that he went into one of the Manhattan public libraries to read a book on the manufacture of limburger cheese (it was lunch time), and made out a call slip for a book on "cheeses and cheese-making." The library attendant, an old Scot, replied with the greatest gravity that the book was unavailable, having been "seriously gnawed by mice."—*Coal Trade Journal*.

ONE of the recent puzzles of the circulating department was a lady who desired "The happy home." She insisted that it was not a work classed in domestic economy, but a recent novel, highly recommended. An attendant with intuition finally discovered that she wished Mrs. Wharton's "House of mirth."

